Saso takes aim at $1.4M debt

By KAREN GIBSON
Staff Writer

Niagara College President John Saso said the college's $1.4 million deficit should be balanced in four years.

"The deficit will be reduced through new activities," Mr. Saso said. "You can't do it through massive cuts. It will be done through expansion and new business."

Mr. Saso has been college president since September and said he is ahead of his strategic plan for the college.

"We're six months ahead," he said. "I thought it would take a year, but circumstances allowed us to go ahead. We have the planning part done and the new people in place."

In six months, many goals in the strategic plan have been "accomplished."

Mr. Saso's reorganization plan created two new vice-president positions — Carol Boettcher was appointed vice-president of student life and human resources, and Dan Patterson was appointed vice-president of community ventures.

Goals accomplished for student success include the student centre, with plans for a student residence; Focus on Success program; articulation committees with the Lincoln and Niagara South school boards; the election of a student representative to the college's board of governors and an adult skills development strategy focused on life long learning.

Goals to improve staff morale resulted in a professional development steering committee and coordinatorship, selection teams for senior management positions, staff recognition awards and the Intouch newsletter issued from the president's office.

The profile of the college has been enhanced throughout the Niagara Region. Mr. Saso has talked to 35 community groups and businesses.

In his goal to consolidate college campuses into three major locations — Welland, Niagara Falls, and St. Catharines — Mr. Saso has initiated talks to find land in St. Catharines to make one major St. Catharines campus.

"I've had good support from the board (of governors) and faculty union," Mr. Saso said. "I'm impressed with the students and have had help from the community and college. Any obstacles we had, we faced as a group."

NIAGARA COLLEGE
of Applied Arts and Technology
WELLAND CAMPUS
LEARNING
RESOURCE CENTRE

NIAGARA NEWS

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Fourth-place Knights capture title

championship win 'the sweetest'

By NEVILLE LEWIS
Staff Writer

The Niagara Knights came from behind to win the International Collegiate Hockey League playoff championship title for the second time in two years at Kitchener's Conestoga College last Sunday.

"Last year we were favored to win and we won; this year it's even sweeter," Knights coach Fred Bassi said. "I didn't expect to be standing here, and here I am. I'm really proud of Niagara College."

The Knights, last year's regular season and playoff winners, beat Penn State Nittany Lion Icers, who were favored to win the 1990-1991 title, 6-5 in overtime.

The Niagara men advanced to the finals by beating Erie Community College, this year's regular season title holder, 9-7 in Saturday's semi-finals. Losing 3-2 to Penn State in an overtime game, host Conestoga Condors failed to reach the Sunday final.

In reaching the Sunday afternoon final, the Knights not only overcame a 5-4 deficit but also a fourth place finish in the regular season. All of the other three finalists had beaten them at least once this year.

But the Knights rose to the occasion over the weekend and showed themselves to be true contenders for the title. As the defending champions, the team played hard to bring the trophy home.

Offensively and defensively, the team came out strong. They led their opponents by 10 shots on goal in both games.

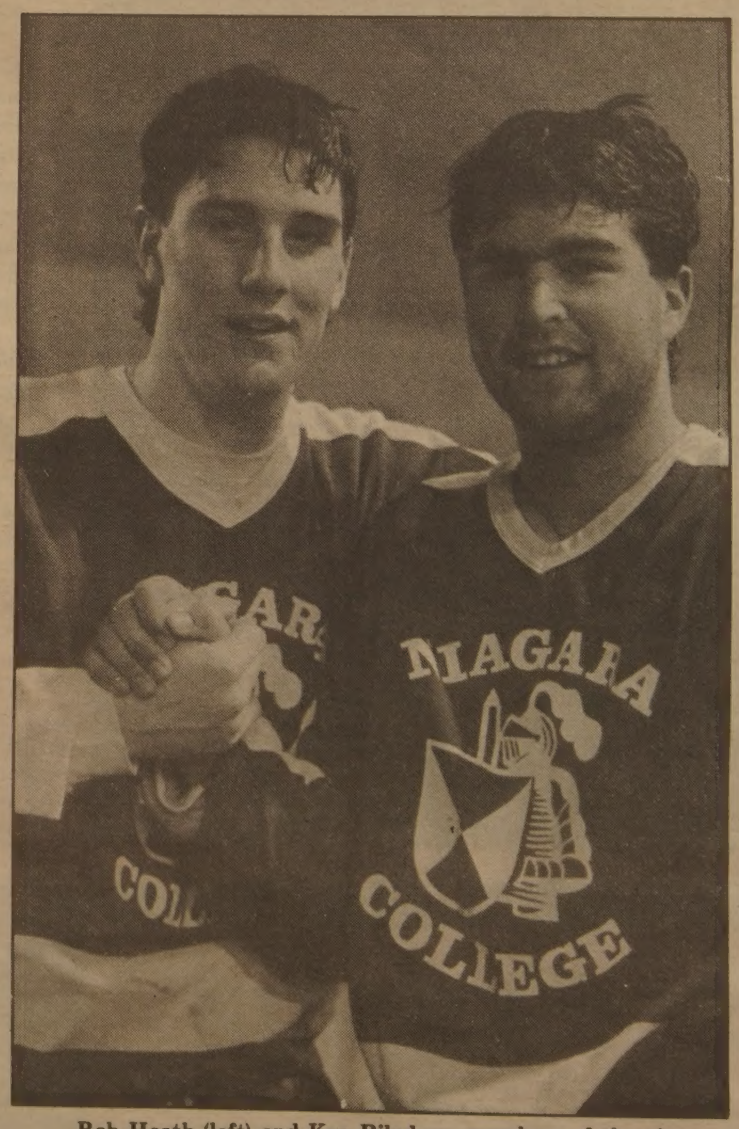
"This is my third championship in four years," captain James Ward said. "Of all of them, this is the sweetest. All the odds were against us, but everybody played hard. It's awesome. Last year we were expected to win. We did. We won everything.

"Everyone played well. The goalies played very well. Tick (Mike Ticknovich) played quite well today and stopped some breakaway goals. We needed that." The captain said it took the team some time to come together but "come playoff they played outstanding. Statistically we are the best this weekend."

However, he attributed the victory to coach Bassi. "He's our motivator like you wouldn't believe. That (the championship) is who it's for."

Forward Lance Parcher, whose goal, scored 18 seconds into the overtime, gave Niagara its second consecutive playoff title, said he couldn't believe what happened. "I don't know" he said in an after-game interview Sunday. "It hasn't sunken in as yet. But it feels good. We were the underdogs going into the game but everybody played well. That's the key to winning. "It feels a little bit better," the veteran of last year's double-victory team said. "This year we did not have as strong a team. We weren't expected to win."

"Niagara deserved to win as well as anyone else," coach Bassi said. "My team didn't want to lose, they wanted to win. I'm really proud of Niagara College."



Rob Hoath (left) and Ken Bilodeau, members of the victorious Niagara Knights, congratulate each other after winning the International Collegiate Hockey League championship for the second consecutive year.

Photo by Neville Lewis

This is the final edition of the Niagara News by the 15 second-year journalism students. Next week's edition will be written and produced by the first-year journalism students.

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Niagara Knights hockey coach Fred Bassi (right) holds trophy with Rob Scriven. The emotional victory brought tears to the coach's eyes. See Page 9.

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Patterson studying move to St. Catharines

By JENNIFER BARTKIW
Staff Writer

Dan Patterson, vice-president of community ventures, has been wandering the halls of the St. Catharines campus but he's not lost. He is trying to establish whether or not the campus is a suitable site for his new portfolio.

"I have been spending a lot of time walking the halls of the St. Catharines campus trying to figure out how we (community ventures portfolio) can move and minimize disruption for the students," Mr. Patterson said.

"While all the data on the feasibility study isn't in, I am very optimistic I can achieve the goal of having ventures be a major presence at the St. Catharines campus," Mr. Patterson said.

Mr. Patterson hoped to reach a decision on the move by early March but the space committee asked for more information. "More information was required from us to look into various alternatives and configurations," Mr. Patterson said. "A decision has to be made within the next two to three weeks."

Not everyone from the ventures portfolio will be moving to St. Catharines, Mr. Patterson said. "We want to create a substantial presence in St. Catharines, but we don't want to ignore the Welland and Niagara Falls campuses."

Several colleges have the Ontario Basic Skills Development offices located off-campus with part of the lease cost covered by the Ministry of Skills Development, Mr. Patterson said. "It's like a storefront office which is closer to the client and out in the business community. We are looking to see if that is feasible."

FOCUS GROUP SET

Mr. Patterson, with Brian McKeown, Ontario Skills Development office consultant, has been gathering information and talking with people who will be affected by the move. A focus group will be established to gather information and analyze the strengths, concerns and opportunities of such a move, Mr. Patterson said.

"The biggest concern is that we don't disrupt students who require classroom space," he said. He foresees the move's major advantage as consolidating a new team under one roof. "Part of the consolidation is to have the three major centres in Niagara: Welland, St. Catharines and Niagara Falls."

Mr. Patterson has been meeting with staff and students to get their reaction to the possible move. "I haven't sensed any major upset on the part of the staff (Niagara College) around such a move. Everyone at this point in time seems to be relatively positive," he said.

However, not everyone will be happy with the move, he predicted. "Any move whatsoever is bound to cause concern and disruption for some and for some (it will provide) opportunities," he said.

The goal must be kept straight and focused, he stressed. "We must concentrate not on personalities but on issues and the issue being to better serve our clients — then we will achieve our goal."

The move has to be done "prudently", he said. The major criteria being examined include the cost of moving, phone installation, computer hook-ups, meeting rooms, floor space and the needs of people involved.

"We are very much into the feasibility stage," Mr. Patterson said. "The study is being undertaken to be sure that it (the move) can be done."

Special Needs use increases

More Niagara College students are utilizing the services of the Special Needs office since its inception three years ago Victoria Maugain, Special Needs co-ordinator, said.

By October 1990, 260 cases had been referred, with 61 active cases. There are now 325 referrals, with 115 active cases. "More people are identifying themselves," she said.

"There has been good accommodation by faculty," Mrs. Maugain said. "It's a real co-operative effort. A great number are doing well."

"I believe people rise to the expectations that others have," Mrs. Maugain said.

"We are trying to start a support group for students with mild head injuries. Any students who would like to start a self-help group should contact the Special Needs office, ext. 496."

People with special needs attending Niagara in the fall who feel in need of the services and support the office provides are urged to identify themselves as soon as possible. "April isn't too early," Mrs. Maugain said.

Preceptors 'a positive': committee

A meeting of the preceptorship planning committee for Mack campus was held March 7.

"It's a positive," Mary Sirotnik, co-ordinator of Year 3 and curriculum, said.

Mrs. Sirotnik said a decision was made to continue with the preceptorship program and plans were made for evaluation in May.

A preceptor is a teacher or mentor. In Mack's preceptorship program, a student is matched with a qualified graduate nurse.

Mrs. Sirotnik said the preceptorship may be a local bargaining issue in the as yet unsettled contract between the hospitals and the Ontario Nurses' Association. Members voted on their contract yesterday.

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Page 3

Guard bids library adieu

By KAREN GIBSON
Staff Writer

Niagara College's Welland campus is losing its library policeman.

Today is General Tisi's last day on the job.

Mr. Tisi, 73, has been the library's security guard for two years. Previously, Mr. Tisi was a night security guard for the Voyageur and Mackenzie buildings for two years.

College security changes have eliminated his job.

"I will miss all the students," Mr. Tisi said. "I've never had any big problems, no fights."

Mr. Tisi said he had planned to work at the college until he was 75, but he doesn't have plans to look for another job.

"I don't want to work anywhere else," he said. "I will do volunteer work at social services as a French and Italian interpreter. My mother was French and my father Italian."

Mr. Tisi has lived in Port Colborne since he moved from Montreal when he was seven years old.

"I remember the wooden sidewalks and roads," he said. "There used to be a Port Colborne trolley to St. Catharines."

Mr. Tisi's other jobs have included work on a Tillsonburg tobacco farm, as a hotel bartender, court interpreter and 40 years at Union Carbide in Welland.

In 1941 he lost part of two fingers on his right hand in a punch press while working at Canada Foundries in Welland.

"Six people lost fingers that month," he said., "The company wasn't concerned about safety then."

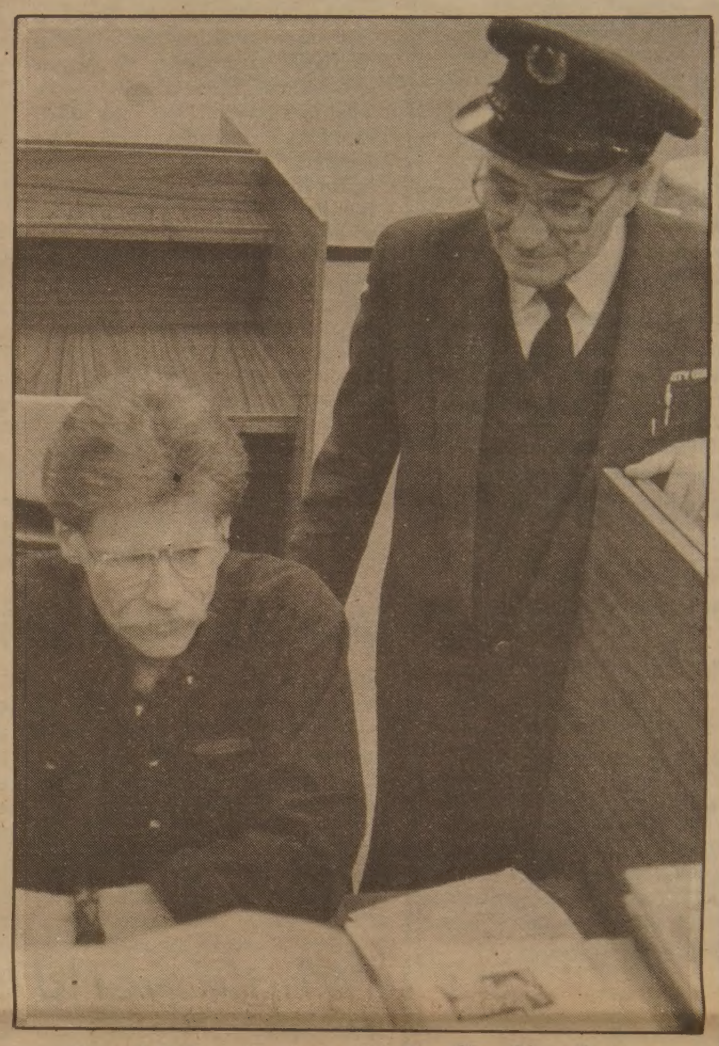
Library staff said they are sorry to see Mr. Tisi leave.

"I'm disappointed," Sandy Brooks, library technician lead hand, said. "He's the best security guard the library has had. He takes time to talk with the students. I think the decision was premature; there are only seven more weeks of school. They could have waited."

Trish Labonte, head librarian, said, "He's a special person. He has the right combination of being friendly and helpful and maintains excellent discipline with the students."

Ms. Labonte invites college personnel and students to drop by the Resource Centre in the library today at 3 p.m.

"I'm going to have a big card and I would like everyone to sign it," she said.



General Tisi, right, chats with Jim Cloughley, first-year general college student.

Photo by Diane Foster

Campaign pitches slated for April 2

Students have until noon today to return nomination kits for seven Student Administrative Council positions.

Nomination kits can be picked up at the Student Administrative Council office. A holding fee of $10 is refunded when nomination kits are returned.

Campaigning takes place until April 1. Campaign speeches will be given on April 2 in the Hamilton Room, Welland campus, at 12:30 p.m.

Elections at the Welland campus take place April 4. Advance election dates for the satellite campuses are: Mack campus in St. Catharines, April 1; Hospitality and Tourism campus in Niagara Falls, April 2; Horticulture Centre in St. Catharines, April 3.

Honorariums are given for all seven elected positions. They are as follows: $140 bi-weekly for president; $110 bi-weekly for executive vice-president, vice-president for internal affairs, vice-president for external affairs, vice-president for athletics, vice-president of finance, and vice-president of social affairs.

"To be effective, Student Administrative Council members should be in the SAC office a minimum of 10 hours a week," Lou Dimattio, student liaison officer, said.

A brief description of the main duties of the seven elected positions are as follows:

1. The president co-ordinates and monitors the secretarial staff and services for the Board of Directors and Corporation and sees all decisions of the board are carried out.

2. The executive vice-president fills in for the president whenever necessary and oversees all student clubs and organizations.

3. The vice-president for internal affairs co-ordinates and supervises all communication, publicity, advertising, and media coverage for all on-campus social events sponsored by the Corporation.

4. The vice-president for external affairs is responsible for public relations between the college, the community and other educational institutions. He or she co-ordinates activities with outside groups such as the Red Cross.

5. The vice-president for athletics promotes athletic services, programs, and affairs and acts as a liaison between the athletics department and the Corporation.

6. The vice-president of finance provides bookkeeping and accounting services for the Corporation and looks after all banking.

7. The vice-president of social affairs organizes college social events and arranges and books entertainment.

A more detailed description of Student Administrative Council positions is available at the SAC office.

Forgotten campus 'in limbo': Rowbottom

By RICHARD DOUGLAS
Staff Writer

Call it the forgotten campus. Stuck behind a collection of businesses Niagara College's Carleton Street campus stands alone, its doors locked.

Home of the college's carpentry and bricklaying facilities, the campus has not been used for two years. "It's in limbo," George Rowbottom, director of technical trades training, said. "It's a matter of funding."

About 7,000 square feet in size, it houses course equipment such as table and radial arm saws that have sat unused for some time.

The courses offered were for adult retraining and sponsored by the government, Darla German of the registrar's office, said.

Mr. Rowbottom said the courses were "dependent on government funds." He added the government has significantly cut its support of such programs. He said plans are being discussed to use the facility but it is "premature to say it's going one way or another."

A spokesman for Bay Valley Enterprises, the property owner, said the building is a former canning fctory and is unfinished inside. Mr. Rowbottom said this rough hewn facility is "entirely suitable for the type of work going on in there."

The campus' future is unclear. "I suspect we'll be able to use it," Mr. Rowbottom said.

Potential RNs

Mack opens doors to future students

An open house will be held at the Mack campus in St. Catharines today for potential registered nursing (RN) students.

This is the second time such a gathering has been planned, Bonnie Martyn, Year I co-ordinator of the program, said.

"It (last year's open house) was very successful," she said.

The day will be divided into two sessions — 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The afternoon session will be the same as the morning session, Mrs. Martyn said.

The campus is expecting 300 students to attend, half at each session. The participants will be divided into three groups which will rotate "sort of like a round robin" to different areas, she said.

One group will be touring the campus and meeting with the Year I students. They will be able to ask the students questions about the program they may not feel comfortable asking instructors.

"The (Year I) students volunteered very willingly (to help)," Mrs. Martyn said. There are both male and female volunteers.

She said the second group will be writing a math exercise and an autobiography. The autobiography will describe why the student wants to be a nurse and why he or she wants to attend Mack.

The third group will watch a film and receive a general overview of the program. At the end of an hour, the groups will rotate so each group will have an opportunity to participate in each activity.

Not all 300 participants will be attending Mack, Mrs. Martyn said. Only 125 can be accepted into the program. One of the prerequisites for acceptance is a 60 per cent mark in high school chemistry.

Some participants may have applied to nursing programs at other colleges and universities. They may be waiting for acceptances or trying to decide which acceptance to choose.

"They're covering themselves (by attending the Mack open house)," Mrs. Martyn said.

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Editorials

SAC elections

Lack of nominees hurt

Once again, elections are being held for Student Administrative Council. And once again, it will not be much of an election — most of the positions will be filled by acclamation due to a lack of nominees.

At press time, only eight nominations had been received for seven positions for the 1991-92 student council.

However, in this instance, the problem may not be due solely to a lack of student interest. The lack of nomination time and publicity could also be a factor.

Interested students from all campuses had only one week to get a nomination kit. Nominations opened last Friday and ended today at noon.

Most students probably don't know how the Student Administrative Council operates, and one week is not enough time to find out the responsibilities and time commitments needed for each position, especially for students from satellite campuses.

A possible solution would be to extend the one-week nomination period to three weeks, allowing time to place more than one advertisement in the college newspaper and advertise more extensively on the college radio station. Students who missed the advertisement missed the nomination announcement.

The fact our satellite campuses don't get the college's Friday newspaper until the following Monday is another reason to extend the nomination period.

A longer nomination period might mean more students would come forward.

Another solution to promote interest in the SAC election would be to publicize the duties of the seven positions to help busy students better understand how SAC works.

The cost of additional advertisements could be funded by the thousands of students dollars SAC receives each year.

With better publicity and more time to get nomination forms, we might have had a real election April 4.

Karen Gibson

Repairing white elephant

Niagara College is receiving a $973,000 provincial grant and $515,000, or 52.9 per cent, is going to repair a white elephant.

The money will be used for roof repairs, heating and cooling units, and cleaning and painting the St. Catharines Wellandvale campus. The college plans to sell the building in two years.

The remaining $458,000 will be spent to make college buildings accessible to the handicapped.

While the staff and students at the Wellandvale campus do need heat, do they really need a new paint job? Is painting a building that may not be standing in a few years a priority?

The country is in a recession, the college has a $1.4 million dollar deficit, and money is being spent on paint. Where is the logic? Is this building being painted to impress the potential buyer(s)?

Instead of the college painting a building it will soon be selling, couldn't the money be used elsewhere? Is the money allocated for the accessibility work sufficient or could the painting money be used for that?

While it is true the college must spend money in order to make money, is it not also true that a penny saved is a penny earned?

Robbie Craine

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News tips call extension 750

Letters welcome

The Niagara News welcomes letters from readers. Letters to the editor should be kept brief and must include the writer's name, program and telephone number. Letters must be signed, pen names will not be accepted. The editor reserves the right to edit all letters, but will take every precaution to preserve the core of the writer's point of view or argument. Letters should be left at the newsroom of the Niagara News, Second floor, Simcoe Building by noon Wednesdays.

Letters to the Editor

Abt criticizes newspaper

Dear Editor:

Trash. Complete and utter trash.

This has become a familiar refrain at the Student Administrative Council office on Fridays when the new issue of the Niagara News comes out.

Because the Niagara News is the only publication readily available to students on events and policies, the students believe what is written is true. This belief, however, is unfounded. The Niagara News is time and time again filled with lies, half-truths, falsified testimony and unfounded references.

At the beginning I, as Student Administrative Council president, was assured by reporters that bad press on issues such as SAC activities and issues such as the college's attempt at a cleaner environment would be purely constructive in nature. This quickly turned into nothing but a big crock.

Criticism turned from moderately helpful into destructive and corrupt which seemed to be written for the sole purpose of getting one's name recognized. This is a crime that affects the building of school spirit and togetherness for a better future.

A cynic might ask, "what school spirit?" I say it's there. I've seen it. The evidence of school spirit is everywhere from groups singing and playing guitar in the halls to participation in intramural activities, but I ask you how can spirit grow and flourish when it is constantly being beaten over the head by deceit aimed at the readers of this newspaper.

I know all reporters are not to blame directly, but there has to be some kind of internal control — because a lie written by one person reflects on the paper as a whole.

I truly hate to have to write this letter, but I hope that the good reporters rub off on others so they don't end up writing for the National Enquirer.

Cory Abt
Student Administrative
Council president

Name chosen not sexist

Dear Editor:

I strongly feel that the name chosen for the student centre is not sexist. It is a name, that is all, not a sexist statement.

As students of Niagara College, both male and female, all of us are Knights. This name is what we stand for.

In response to the letter from Genny Weerdenburg. Maybe she should be the one "to take a closer look" at how quickly she has judged the selection. Did you submit a name for the centre? I thought not.

Lisa Aloian
Second-year
business administration

'Whole world is sexist'

Dear Editor:

In response to your letter (Genny Weerdenburg) about the student centre. The whole world is sexist if you can't handle the name maybe you should go somewhere else where sexism doesn't occur.

When you find that place, please give me a call.

Sue Sween
First-year retail management

The Queen's Quarters?

Dear Editor:

Re: Genny Weerdenburg's letter to the editor stating that the name chosen for the student centre is sexist.

Response: Do I think it's sexist? No! Would you prefer it be called The Queen's Quarters? Let's be serious.

Suggestion Genny: Instead of complaining after the fact, contribute beforehand.

Nathan Majer
First-year LASA

Bullpit

No-name language

By KAREN GIBSON
Staff Writer

There's a universal no-name language that speaks no words, yet compels us to listen. There is everyday proof that we respond unconsciously and automatically to non-human noises. Perhaps you have heard and obeyed them.

The blast of the morning alarm starts the day as the arm gropes across the bed in search of the off button. The alarm goes silent, but is replaced by the insistent ringing of the telephone calling to be answered.

The kettle-whistle screams to be rescued from the hot element and the microwave buzzes that the danish is ready.

The cat meows pitifully to be fed and the doorbell signals the arrival of the morning newspaper.

A trip in the car contains a buzzing reminder to buckle-up. The blast of a car horn is criticism of driving ability and the wailing of ambulance sirens is a warning to pull over. The sound of screeching brakes is cause to tightly grip the steering wheel in anticipation of a collision.

Safe and soundless in bed, the mind reflects on a day filled with controlling noises. There is the feeling of being talked to all day but not hearing a word. The mind gradually drifts off to sleep — correction — it almost drifts off.

The body stumbles out of bed to stop that infernal tap from dripping!

Comment and Opinion Page

Paying off debt in everyone's best interest

By ROBERT FINLAY
Staff Writer

If anyone has any doubts as to why a deficit is a bad thing, all one has to do is look at the cover of the federal tax preparation booklet.

There you will discover, in the form of a neat loonie-like pie graph, that 28 cents of every tax dollar goes to "servicing" the deficit. That's an euphemism for paying the *interest*, mind you, not the deficit.

To paraphrase an anti-drug commercial: this is our economy — (drop egg in sizzling pan) — this is our economy in debt. Any questions?

A debt is like an economic black hole, draining funds which could be used in other ways. As a student, a teacher or support staff, that is all you really need to know to be concerned.

In times such as these, when it seems every country in the world operates with a deficit, we tend to get blase when we see headlines about deficits and economic matters. What are they going to do, repossess the country?

Well, no. But tuition is going up between $60 and $80 next year. Why? Because the province has less money to give the colleges. Why? Because the federal government has less money to give the provinces. Why? Because we have a horrendous deficit we must reduce at any cost before we're spending 75 cents on the dollar for interest payments, and we can't afford all those wonderful social programs we take for granted.

It's not an abstract concept. It's very simple: the government's been subsidizing my visits to the doctor, my schooling and my unemployment benefits for too long, and now I must pay some of it back.

Niagara College currently has a deficit of about $1.4 million not overwhelming in light of our $40-million operating budget, but a nasty problem nonetheless.

This kind of deficit is the same as any other. It is damaging, distracting and can very quickly get out of hand, as the college administration knows full well.

Niagara College President John Saso said he believes the budget will be reduced to zero in four years, a rather optimistic attitude in light of declining provinical funding and increased costs.

In the last issue of the Niagara News, David Bessey, chairman of Niagara's Board of Governors, said he believes growth is the college's only way to beat the deficit. He is optimistic Niagara will start to reduce its deficit by 1993-94.

Federal Finance Minister Michael Wilson has said each year he hopes the federal deficit will be reduced, but it has only climbed.

The point is not that Mr. Saso, Mr. Bessey, or Mr. Wilson are mistaken or unrealistic — they certainly are not. They are making educated guesses based on what is true now. Unfortunately, what is true now may not be true a year from now.

As a former economics professor of mine once said, economics is less about what will happen than what should happen.

For instance, Niagara would probably be in much better financial shape if it hadn't been for the teachers' strike last year, the extra taxes levied by the provincial government to cover Ontario Hospital Insurance Premium costs for employees, or the snow storm last September which cost thousands of dollars in equipment. All these things — unforseen, of course — contributed to making our situation even worse than what had been predicted.

We at Niagara should be pleased administration is concerned with the deficit and have a plan to deal with it. We should, however, not become ignorant of the problem or of what is being done about it. If we do, the next budget might put us out of school or out of a job.

Enthusiastic response 'good sign' for region's first Women's Day

By CATHERINE DENISON
Staff Writer

It was difficult to find a parking spot at the St. Catharines Collegiate last Saturday — a good sign, I thought, of an enthusiastic response to the first, day-long celebration in St. Catharines of International Women's Day celebrated in Canada March 8 since 1975.

The lobby was packed with about 150 women — more than the organizers expected, they said. There was, however, a lamentable absence of a significant number of young women, the majority being middle-aged — the grey power Gloria Steinem predicted would sweep the nations.

The availability of on-site day care made it possible for mothers with young children like myself to enjoy the day. Since the event was organized by women, the needs of mothers and children were considered — a welcome recognition in a society that undermines their importance causing many women with young children to feel lonely and isolated.

In the first workshop on women's sexuality, we broke into groups of about 10 to discuss how we as children experienced affection, nudity, sexual exploration, and parental expectations of female behavior avoiding any serious problems for a more appropriate time at the request of seminar speaker, Ann Bown, professor of Women's Studies at Brock University.

Speakers, Ms. Bown, Sheila Nicholson, sex therapist and host of a cable television sex talk show; and Liz Clark, co-ordinator of Feminist Network of Niagara, conducted the workshop in such a relaxed and candid way that women seemed comfortable and even eager to share their experience in smaller groups and as a whole.

Different family experiences were shared but what emerged overall was the determination of those present to define their sexuality for themselves in the context of caring and communication and to accept with comfort changing bodies in defiance of a culture that too often defines women's importance by their appearance.

Between workshops, women had many opportunities for networking while perusing book, art, and information displays on a wide range of issues such as abortion, alternative medicine, the environment, Amnesty International, child-rearing concerns, women's professional organizations and business directories.

Louise Robertson, a former Niagara College instructor in creative writing, participated in poetry and dramatic readings.

The afternoon workshop on Native Women: Their History, Present Reality and Changing Role in Society was facilitated by Leona Forshner, social development counsellor for the Niagara Regional Native Centre.

The audience responded with interest and compassion as Ms. Forshner, Edna King, native fiction writer and poet, and Jackie Labonte, director of the literacy program at the Niagara Regional Native Centre, discussed life on the reserve, the role of women in native society, and Canada's history of discriminating legislation against native women.

Prior to 1985, the federal Indian Act denied native women all native rights and privileges if they married a non-native while a non-native woman who married a native man was given native status.

By the end of the day I felt exhilirated to be in the presence of so many strong, caring, independent women and when I collected my five-year-old son and 11-year-old daughter they seemed particularly energized as well. Their world will be better, I thought, because of women who have the courage to speak out and the compassion to reach out their hands to their sisters.

War in the Gulf over, time to tell truth

By CATHERINE DENISON
Staff Writer

Now that Iraq has been pulverized and its retreating calvacade cut to ribbons like fish in a barrel, it's time to ferret out the truth about what really went on in this war.

Among the screaming pro-war slogans like "We came, we saw, we kicked a--," were the voices of a small but vocal minority who countered with, "No blood for oil. We won't die for Texaco."

Some yellow-beribboned, flag-waving zealots went so far as to suggest that anti-war demonstrators should be thrown in jail — so blinded were they by their jingoistic passions to protect "the American way of life."

Recent reports in Harper's Magazine, the Village Voice, Newsweek, Time, and several dailies have presented compelling evidence to suggest that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein was encouraged by the Central Intelligence Agency into going into Kuwait in the first place as part of a long-term plan to establish U.S. military control over the region's oil wealth.

James Akins, a Washington energy and Middle East specialist, is among those who believe Saddam fell into a trap of Byzantine intrigue and international gambits.

"Oh, my God, now the conspiracy is complete," Jordan's King Hussein, a failed peacemaker, said in Amman, in early August, the day after the invasion.

Last summer, the White House fought to stop Congress from imposing economic sanctions against Iraq for Saddam's abysmal record of human rights abuses.

Animals may deceive predators to stay alive, but only humans deceive themselves constantly, a religious philosopher noted recently at an international gathering of scientists in Washington.

Iraq's unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait is not a victory for freedom, democracy, and the creation of a new world order. Rather, it is a continuation of the old order and represents another failure to solve global tensions through diplomacy.

Javier Perez de Cuellar, secretary-general of the United Nations, has told reporters the war in the gulf was a U.S. war and not a war waged by the UN itself.

Why was the war option so quickly sold to and accepted by the majority of people in the coalition countries?

Wars begin in the angry and battered hearts of people and unless each of us is willing to face the shadow side within — as psychoanalyst, Dr. Carl G. Jung called it — to disarm our hearts — there can never be peace.

The answer to why millions felt a vicarious thrill — and even exhilaration — as the war scenario unfolded can be summed up in the oft-quoted words of the comic character, Pogo, "We has met the enemy and they is us."

Society must become aware: women's issues affect all people

By JOAN GREAVES
Staff Writer

Women across Canada are adversely affected by a cultural and political climate that promotes the middle-class, white male. Many people assume that women have come a long way, but women earn 66 per cent of the salary of men.

Political representation by women is minimal. Ontario was hailed as an equitable wonder when Ontario Premier Bob Rae appointed 11 women to his cabinet last fall.

Events like International Women's Day are needed to bring issues like pay equity, day care, domestic violence and similar issues to the attention of the public. Yet these issues affect all people, not just women. They affect one's children, one's family — the basic unit of society. When these groups are affected adversely, our entire society suffers.

Consciousness-raising has a long way to go. Sexist jokes may seem amusing, but they aren't. Substitute Black, Jew, Italian ... and it becomes a racist joke. Sexist jokes reflect the inferior position of women in society. Would you want them directed at your mother, sister, wife, or daughter?

International Women's Day activities help to raise awareness about women's issues, which are really human issues — they affect all of us. Ultimately, the recognition of the day leads to solutions by providing the necessary information to make enlightened choices.

Students are apathetic, says administration, about recognizing International Women's Day. Wrong. We do care. We have to care.

Nursing grads honored

Five Niagara College nursing assistant graduates were honored by their employer on March 11.

Sunset Haven Home for the Aged in Welland honored Sharon Huffman, Donna Labbe, Judy Marr, Bonnie Robison, and Judi Shucker at a recognition tea.

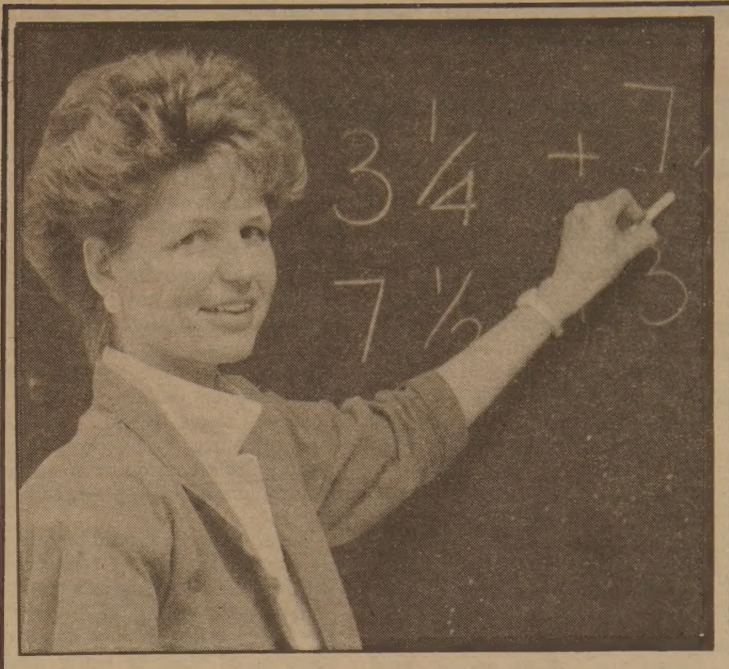
The five women graduated from a part-time nursing assistant program Oct. 12, 1990. They had attended evening classes for 2½ years to obtain their diplomas. They simultaneously worked days at Sunset Haven.

Sunset Haven administrator Peter Papp, Director of Care Ann Gronski, Niagara Regional Chairman Wilbert Dick, and Regional Councillor Eleanor Lancaster attended the tea.

"It's certainly an occasion for the corporation (Regional Municipality of Niagara) ... to recognize the achievements of these people," Mr. Dick said.

Mrs. Gronski said, "I really promote education. I think they (graduates) deserve medals."

Focus



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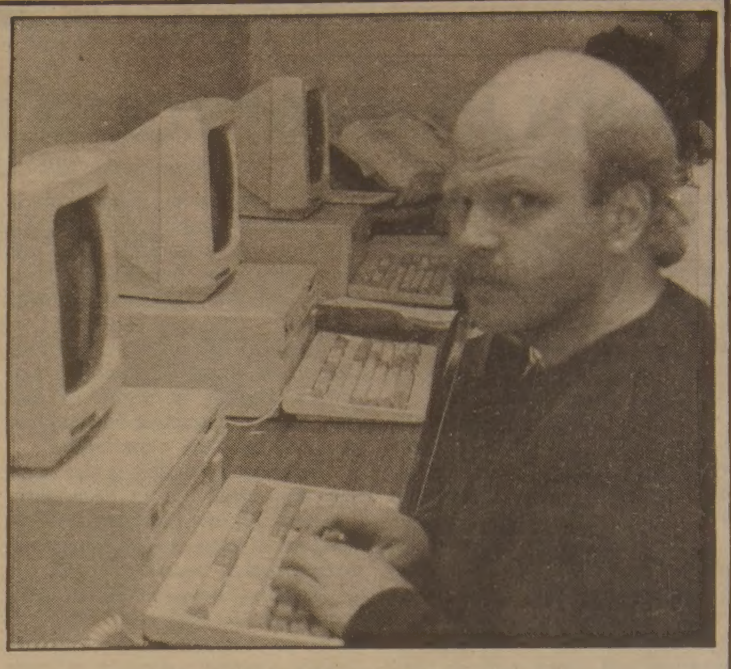

MARK SUTCH

Nominees contend position important

Two students are competing for the position of student governor for the college's Board of Governors.

Campaigning takes place until next Tuesday.

Elections will be held March 20 to 21 at the following locations: Welland Campus: Co-op and placement, Tecumseh Centre extension, ME-103, Counselling, M-7, S-107-C, H-21, H-3; Hospitality and Tourism Centre, Niagara Falls; Horticultural Centre, St. Catharines; Mack Nursing Education Centre, St. Catharines — curriculum room; Mount Carmel, Niagara Falls; St. Catharines campus main office.

The elected student will hold office for the term Sept. 1, 1991 to Aug. 31, 1992. Votes will be counted March 22.

Staff writer Diane Foster recently interviewed both students.

Brigitta Verbraeken

Twenty-six-year-old Brigitta Verbraeken is excited about her possible election as student representative to the college's Board of Governors.

"When I heard about the position, and the class nominated me I got excited," she said. "Education is my whole interest. Everything I'm learning and everything I do is in the education field."

A lot of the decisions that effect the student body are made by the Board of Governors, she said. "This gives me a chance to see how these decisions are made, and a chance to have a say," Brigitta, a second-year educational resources and special needs student, said.

Brigitta would like to see the college become more of a whole unit. "I feel like the college is a big group of separate parts. I would like to see them become much more interrelated."

The satellite campuses need to be more involved in college life, too, she said. "Students at the satellite campuses haven't got a clue what is going on here. They don't feel a part of the college, yet all the decisions made here affect them."

She would like to see all program co-ordinators consider the needs of other programs instead of being interested in the needs of only their own program.

"This is my chance to find out what people (students) want and how to get the needs known to those in power in a tactful way," Brigitta said.

"I found out you do have a lot of power to get things accomplished, but people just sit back."

Last year only 40 people turned out to vote for the student representative on the Board of Governors.

Students can't expect to have the best representative if they don't vote, she said. "Students complain a lot, but they don't vote. This is one step they (students) can take to see results — to become involved."

Brigitta enjoys talking to people and isn't afraid of "hard work and challenges," she said.

"If I get elected my aims are going to be very high. I know I can't make everything in college perfect — but I can try!"

Mark Sutch

Mark Sutch, 30, wants to do something to change things for the students at Niagara College.

"There is a lot of things wrong with the school," Mark said. "There's a lot of things right, but a lot wrong. I want to see if I can change them."

There are a number of issues Mark would like to address "like the parking problem." He would like to see "a book exchange set up ... a well-ventilated place for smokers and a mandatory course on study skills."

There is lots of room to make more parking lots, he said. "I guess it's a matter of money. I'll have to wait and see (what can be done)."

"Someone should set up a book exchange at the end of the year. Maybe some enterprising business student would take on such a project."

Smokers need a place to smoke, he said. "I know smoking is bad for you, but I don't want to expose non-smokers to it (the smoke). Smokers shouldn't be allowed to smoke everywhere in the school, but a well-ventilated place non-smokers don't have to go through would be good," he said. "There's got to be a compromise somewhere."

Mark said a mandatory course in study skills would help all students entering their first year of study at the college. "A lot of the students that come here aren't prepared to be here. Something should be done to prepare them to be here. Most students have poor study skills."

Mark would like to promote awareness as to what the student representative on the Board of Governors does and "maybe have a question and answer period for the student body."

"Communication in the school is lacking," he said. "There are services available to students that most aren't aware of. Maybe students don't know where to look. We need something a little more active so students don't have to seek it out."

Mark is a second-year business administration information systems student. His is a three-year program.

"There are other campuses and they need to be involved," he said. "I need to make some trips to them (the other campuses) and see what they are all about.

"I'm going to try and do something for the students," Mark said. "I imagine it's like anything — it will take a long time to get anything done. Maybe I won't see the results while I'm here, but future students can benefit."

New Mack council to promote school spirit

The new Students of Mack Administrative Council has been elected.

The council's purposes, as identified in The Constitution of the Niagara College Nurses' Council, are to promote school spirit, to plan and co-ordinate extra-curricular activities, to promote co-operation between faculty and students, and to act as liaisons with Niagara College's Student Administrative Council.

For a student to be an executive member, he or she must have successfully completed Term 3.

Celia Parente is the new president. Celia has served on student councils and yearbook committees in the past and said she hopes this previous experience will serve her in her new position.

Celia said she hopes to foster pride among the students in being future graduates of the nursing program. She will be the fourth Niagara College graduate in her family.

Sonia Denys is the vice-president. She said she hopes to increase school spirit and establish activities all nursing students can participate in, despite their hectic schedules.

Tracy Bulmer is the new secretary. She describes herself as "a pretty outgoing person." She said planning events is exciting.

Dorothy Kaczmarczyk is the new treasurer.

The following students will be class representatives: Year I, Group A — Andrew Thompson (alternate Michelle Fiocca); Year I, Group B — Renee Slingerland (alternate — Joanne Scott); Year I, Group C — Tracey Collins (alternate — Kay Sahni).

Irish saint not really Irishman

By KAREN GIBSON
Staff Writer

As the white of winter gives way to the green of spring, shamrocks and leprechauns appear in store windows in preparation for St. Patrick's Day on Sunday.

The recognition of this day is celebrated by Irish and non-Irish, but Ireland's beloved saint was not Irish.

He was born in AD 385 on his family's west coast estate in England. At age 16, Patrick was captured by raiding Irishmen, who took him to Ireland. After six years of slavery and tending sheep, Patrick escaped to England.

He entered an English monastery to become a missionary and return to Ireland to help the Irish people overcome their pagan beliefs.

In AD 432, Patrick became a bishop and was sent to Ireland to replace a missionary who had died.

There were few Christians; most Irish worshipped the sun, moon and stars. These beliefs were taught by pagan priests, the Druids, who were magicians, teachers, and judges.

At first, the Druids feared Patrick would take away their power, so they cast spells on him and threatened his life.

There were, however, Druids who were impressed by Patrick's Christian ideas and eventually came to trust him. Patrick never tried to abolish the Druids' old rites or customs, but instead found a way to combine them with Christian customs.

For almost 30 years, Patrick taught his Christian faith, and the Irish eventually claimed him for their own.

When Patrick died March 17, AD 461, Ireland went into mourning. It is reported the sun went into mourning and did not rise for 12 days after his death. For these 12 days, there was a continuous procession of Irish people who travelled great distances carrying candles and lanterns to pay their respects.

LEGEND

Legend states St. Patrick had magical powers. When the Druids tried to kill him by giving him a glass of poisoned wine, Patrick froze the wine and poured off the poison.

WEARIN' OF THE GREEN

Ireland is known as the emerald isle because it is covered by green fields, pastures, and valleys. The symbol of the emerald isle is the three-leaf clover, or shamrock, which grows freely over Ireland.

Some say the shamrock is the symbol of the Father, the son and the holy ghost, or the trinity of the Catholic faith. The shamrock is Ireland's national emblem.

Wearing the color green honors the ancient Irish custom of burning green leaves and boughs in the spring and sprinkling the ashes over the fields to make them fertile.

St. Patrick's Day is a legal holiday only in Ireland, but Irish and non-Irish celebrate by the wearin' of the green March 17.

DONNA BARRETT

Student Governors need more orientation

By DIANE FOSTER
Staff Writer

Donna Barrett, former student representative on the Niagara College Board of Governors, said it was an interesting experience.

"I enjoyed it," she said. "I met a lot of community leaders from the Niagara Peninsula. They are a nice group of people."

Donna, 45, is from Timmins and came to this area to attend Niagara College. "It (being student governor) helped familiarize me with the area."

The job of student governor "requires a lot of reading," she said. "We review different programs at the committee meetings and things like where the program is going and changes needed to the program."

She said she was hesitant to give her opinions at first, but soon found they (members of the board) would listen to her.

"It was a good learning experience."

Donna said there needs to be better orientation for the student to the board. "I would have liked a tour of all college facilities — at all campuses. That would be good so you know what they are talking about."

"Perhaps the student board member could be paired up with another experienced board member, someone they could look to as a mentor to help familiarize them with procedures — like what to look for in the piles of printed materials they receive."

Donna is disappointed the elections are not better publicized. She said the polling stations should be better marked. "It's too bad most students don't even know there is a student on the board. Student Administrative Council should and the media department should become more involved in promoting it."

The Niagara College student handbook should include the student governor along with Student Administrative Council president and faculty members and be introduced to the student body that way, she said.

Donna said she enjoyed getting involved. "It was a way of giving back to the college. It was a way to get involved in college life. There's not much here for the mature student. Sure, SAC has its pub nights, but if you aren't into that scene, there's nothing much for you."

She said she gained a new perspective on business. "Since I'm in a business course, that helped me to see it from a different view point. It was interesting to see how they are trying to deal with keeping the good educational standards with the limited funds."

It was an opportunity for Donna to see different leadership styles of different people. "It was interesting to see how different people handled different situations."

Donna served on the Board of Governors from January 1990 to Dec. 31, 1990. She is a second-year human and resources management student.

"Student governors are important and anyone willing to run and serve should be given help," she said. "The board does listen. They are interested in what you (students) have to say."

"Students going on the board of governors shouldn't expect to change the world, but they (the board of governors) need the point of view of the students."

Donna enjoyed her term as student representative on the board of governors. "I think any student who is considering it should go for it. It's really good experience!"

Employment opportunities

Attention job hunters: Niagara Falls employers are looking for you.

The Niagara Falls Visitor and Convention Bureau will be holding its fifth annual Tourism Employment Opportunities Night, March 21 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Best Western Your Host Motor Hotel on Murray Street in Niagara Falls.

About 25 different businesses will be on hand in the Chanticleer Room to accept resumes Diane Kusiak, co-ordinator of public relations for the visitor and convention bureau, said.

The evening is open to anyone who is interested in full or part-time work. Those applying should have their social insurance number and brief resume with them.

Differing opinions at Forum

By ROBERT FINLAY
Staff Writer

Bilingualism in Canada should not be mandatory, native people have been given enough rights and diversity is only good to a point. These and other opinions were expressed by students participating in a discussion for the Citizen's Forum, a federal government project designed to gauge grass roots opinions of Canadian issues.

Over 20 second-year human relations students spent almost two hours discussing issues such as native rights, bilingualism and multiculturalism. The class will file individual reports to the Spicer Commission, the royal commission overseeing the Citizen's Forum, along with a group report expressing the class' consensus on the issues.

Helen Kovacs, regional co-ordinator for the Citizen's Forum, said the class discussion was an attempt to get a "grass roots" commentary of Canadian society. Ms. Kovacs, employed in the college's Learning Resource Centre, is chief moderator of the multicultural section for Niagara region.

Instructor Tom Busnarda mediated the discussion, following guidelines set by literature provided by the People's Forum.

The most important topic seemed to be Quebec and bilingualism. Most students agreed Canada should be a bilingual country and Quebec should have special consideration as one of the founders of the country. However, some objected to mandatory French language instruction in high schools and the perceived concessions given to Quebec over the years, from French-only signs to the Meech Lake accord.

Separatism was seen to be negative for both Canada and Quebec according to most students, although some said Quebec had received enough consideration they should reciprocate by remaining in Canada. Many said they had relatives in Quebec and separation would be a disaster.

Economically, some student believed the sudden loss of Quebec would have dire effects on the Canadian economy, while others thought Ontario would stand to become an economic powerhouse without Quebec. Some said English Canada would become more solidified with Quebec's separation.

Native Canadians are alcoholic, lazy and dependent upon government hand-outs some students believed. Some individuals said they thought Indians were given too much by the government in the form of tax breaks, education subsidies and land claims. Some said self-government would allow the Indians to help themselves, while others thought they would not be capable. One individual expressed the counter-opinion that "the native problem is all our problem."

The students seemed to contradict themselves on the diversity issue, however, saying they believed multiculturalism is a good and unique thing for Canada. Some thought diversity could be self-destructive, however, because of the divisive nature of multiculturalism. "Diversity is good to a point," one student said. "But there must be some limits."

Other comments made were that more referendums were needed for important issues, foreign aid should be re-routed into needy provinces and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms is beneficial to most Canadians.

Forum 'waste of time'

While the Citizen's Forum discussion session was beneficial, some raised concerns as to the validity and usefulness of the process, including Niagara College instructor Tom Busnarda.

"I think the students had a sense of excitement and did feel they were being empowered in the political process by having a vehicle where they could provide direct feedback to Ottawa." However, he said, "the issues are too complex for the time frame and the questions themselves are too open-ended. Each question could provide the basis for a two- or three-hour debate."

"I think it's a nice gesture but if we don't see any progress from it it's just a waste of our time and money," second-year human relations student Tanya Babin said. "They could be doing this just because there's a lot of conflict in Canada right now and this could be just to appease us."

Second-year human relations student Ron Ireland thought the discussion was a good idea, "but whether or not our opinions do count is a whole other issue." He expressed concern the board members were all upper-class government appointees and they should have used average people in place of bureaucrats.

"(The students) see it as an elite on this people's forum and they see that as hypocrisy," Mr. Busnarda said.

"I don't think until we see the results we can judge it (the people's forum)," second-year human relations student Pete Weber said. "In theory I think it's very fine. I don't think $27 million is too much to ask for citizens' input for what we expect from our government."

"It's certainly a useful process . . . it provided a focus for discussion, which is always healthy," Mr. Busnarda said. "It could result in them being able to think differently about important issues. The next step of this of course is activism . . . that's another spin-off we can never measure or predict."

Education of hearing impaired focus of ERSN students' trip

By DIANE FOSTER
Staff Writer

The National Technical Institute for the Deaf, part of the 150-year-old Rochester Institute of Technology, is equipped with 500 faculty and staff who are able to handle the 1,245 hearing impaired students in attendance.

"The institute, now in its 26th year, is the only technical college in the world to deal exclusively with the deaf," Elvira Lucas, Niagara College educational resources and special needs program co-ordinator, said. "It is the first and only program to teach deaf students on a hearing college campus."

resources and special needs students visited the Rochester school "to gain exposure to how deaf people learn," Cathy Martin, a special needs student, said. "It helps us to better understand the obstacles they (the deaf) have to face."

"Some things we take for granted are difficult for them" Cathy said.

"Some concepts of our language are hard for them to understand. For example, when we say, 'Get lost', we don't really want that person to get lost. They have trouble grasping that," Bev Halle, another student, said.

"All programs are individualized to the student's needs and capabilities," Mrs. Lucas said.

The school is equipped with many specialized programs including closed captioning, and "a self-learning lab that has a complete program to practice sign and speech reading," student Colleen Sword said. "That (the self-learning lab) was very interesting."

"This is the first year the institute is accepting international students and about 12 Canadian students are attending this year," Mrs. Lucas said.

Although the school is funded by the United States Board of Education, tuition for an international student is about $15,000 per year. This includes room and board.

"One thing that struck me is their (deaf people) sense of humor," Gretta Parotta, a special needs student, said. "They are very expressive. They touch a lot."

eye contact. Sighted people tend not to look at each other when engaged in conversation; deaf people must look at each other to communicate.

"It was very quiet there!" Gretta said. "It was interesting to watch sign language, hear them speak, and see the relationship of the two."

The educational resources and special needs class just completed a unit on hearing impairment and "could relate some of what our instructor has taught us about deaf culture," Cathy said.

"It would have been nice to spend more time doing things on the equipment," Colleen said.

The special students interviewed said it is good for them to know about the Rochester school, how it functions, and what it offers.

The students may come in contact with a person who would be interested in attending a school for the deaf.

Sports

A Niagara Knight player watches the puck bounce off the Erie Community College goalie after a spectacular save.
Photo by Dave Johnson

Road to victory not easy

By DAVE JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Despite finishing fourth in the International Collegiate Hockey League regular season, the Niagara Knights won their second consecutive championship last Sunday.

Comment

Team members and coach Fred Bassi deserve a lot of credit for even getting into the playoffs. A lot of effort went into making the players a championship team.

It wasn't an easy road to victory for the Knights; they had to face some tough teams and lost some very close games.

The Knights played some of their best games on the road. The team at times allowed some games to get out of hand, and then valiantly tried to make a comeback and failed. At other times, however, the players would rally snatching victory from the jaws of defeat.

A good example of this type of play was during the semi-final game against Erie Community College, the top team in the league. The Knights started off the game by scoring three straight goals in the first period.

The Knights then allowed the Erie team to score three unanswered goals in the second period. Going into the third period, with the score 6-5 for Erie, the Knights fought back to score two more goals.

The Knights showed great determination in overcoming the two goal deficit. The players never quit. They knew a shot at the championship rested with their effort in the Erie game.

The Knights knew their opponents for the finals would be the Penn State Icers, always a tough team no matter where they play. The Icers showed how tough they were, even away from home, by overcoming a two goal Conestoga College lead, and winning the game in overtime 3-2 with less than 30 seconds left in the game.

When the Knights faced Penn State in State College, Pa. last month, the Icers had the home crowd behind them. The Icers played before a crowd of 1,800 fans, while Niagara only had themselves and two reporters cheering them on.

The home crowd seemed to ignite the Penn State team to a higher playing level. However, the Knights didn't seem to let the crowd bother them. They lost the first game to Penn State by a 3-2 score, but during the second game, shutout Penn State 3-0. It was the first time Niagara had shutout Penn State in the team's history, and they did it at State College.

The game showed that the Knights can and do play excellent hockey. The Knights are a team everyone at the college should all be proud of. The team shows spirit, whether on the road or at home, where they play with little or no fan support.

Despite a disappointing regular season, the Knights deserve credit for playing their best hockey in the playoffs — when it really counted.

Year-end hockey standings

End of Regular Season	WON	LOST	TIE	POINTS
Erie Community College	11	2	3	25
Penn State University	11	3	2	24
Conestoga College	9	6	1	19
Niagara College	6	8	2	14
Buffalo State University	4	12	0	8
University of Buffalo	2	12	2	6

Racing Go-karts, life in the fast lane

By DAVE JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Go-karts. The word conjures up an image of small children with helmets riding around a track. These go-karts do not go that fast and are relatively safe for even the most inexperienced driver.

The go-karts Niagara College student Rob Paladichuk drives are not for the inexperienced. Rob races a Street Pro-Kart for the Dunlop Racing Team out of Niagara Falls, N.Y. It can attain a speed of over 100 mph.

Rob has been racing go-karts for the past 10 years, both on dirt and asphalt tracks. He started racing in the Niagara Region on local dirt tracks but graduated to asphalt.

"Racing on the dirt tracks was too monotonous," said Rob. "The speeds weren't fast but the racing was intense as we (the racers) were side by side all the time. However, I prefer racing on the asphalt."

He worked as a technical adviser for a Connecticut tire company, road testing different tires and go-karts. "I was into the technical aspects of tires. I figured out what tires and compounds were good to use in different conditions."

In the decade he's been racing he's never been seriously hurt and has been in few accidents. "Motorcycle races are more dangerous than kart racing," said Rob.

"The races on the asphalt tracks are gruelling as they last up to 45 minutes with temperatures reaching 80-90 degrees (Fahrenheit in the summer races)," said Rob. "I'm usually bruised all over the place for a few days. I feel physically drained for about a week after a race."

Pro-Karts, based on Indy car technology, sometimes handle better.

"Before an Indy car race in Seattle, a demonstration race of Super-Karts was put on," said Rob. "The Super-Karts (one class higher than Pro-Karts) actually outperformed the Indy cars by turning faster lap times. The gravitational forces that are exerted on a driver when taking a corner are comparable to those of any Indy car, if not higher in some cases."

Rob's kart has an Italian Komet II 100cc engine in it. This stock two-cycle engine produces about 30 horsepower, which propels the approximately 330 pound (with driver and fuel) kart to a speed of about 105 mph on the straight-away of most courses. All Pro-Karts are roughly the same size, weight and reach the same speeds, so there are no unfair advantages.

Racing these karts is based upon the driver's skill since all of the karts are basically the same. Skill and intelligence play a big role in the success or failure of the driver.

The cost of racing Pro-Karts is not too prohibitive for those interested in entering the sport. Rob, who races for the Dunlop team, has about $15,000 invested by sponsors in the sport through money and equipment they provide. "The engines cost about $1,000 U.S. and the chasis can run from $1,500 to $2,000. I also carry a spare engine in the trailer, just in case there is a breakdown," said Rob.

Rob has a crew of 15 people that travels with him to races in North America.

"I use a 30-foot bus that has been converted to carry us and some of the equipment. I also have a 16-foot trailer that carries the kart and the rest of the equipment."

Over the Christmas holiday season, Rob and his crew travelled to Las Vegas, Nev. and Daytona Beach, Fla. to race. The two-day event in Las Vegas was sponsored by the Showboat Hotel. It had a $2,500 purse and points for the Pro-Kart Challenge Association championship. The race was expected to draw over 150 entrants, with only 20 to 30 racers on the course at one time.

Rob expected to see a crowd of 25,000 to 30,000 people for the street race in Las Vegas. "The Pro-Kart series brings the race to the streets and to the people."

Retirees vote for new officers

Niagara College's retirees' association elected eight officers at a meeting held at the Hospitality and Tourism Centre, Niagara Falls, Ont. recently.

Sixteen members elected executive officers: Duane Orr, president; Mavis Monck, vice-president; Ron Gordon, secretary; Gerry Boyle, treasurer; Donald Coombe, social convener; Bruce Milligan, Barbara Blue, Vera Clay and Bill Stewart, directors.

Mr. Orr said he was very satisfied and pleased with the first meeting.

"We have decided to have a monthly luncheon meeting at the Hospitality and Tourism Centre where we will discuss mutual concerns and interests," he said. "We want to keep retirees up-to-date on progress with pensions, but our primary focus is social activities and what we can do as a group. We hope to be involved with the 25th anniversary celebrations."

Niagara College has about 180 retirees, he said.

Nursing instructor visits Mack 'impressed' by nursing faculty

Mack campus has a visitor from Northern College in South Porcupine, Ont. Jacqueline Jonescu, a Year II registered nursing instructor, arrived at the St. Catharines campus Tuesday and will be leaving today.

"Teachers within the college system have 10 days of professional development each year," Mrs. Jonescu said.

She said she chose Mack because she has family and friends in the area and she wants to study the Roy Nursing model used at Mack. Northern is using a model called Virginia Henderson but will be changing to Orem in the next year or two.

"I want to see how the concepts are developed in the curriculum."

Mrs. Jonescu will be observing the classroom work and the work in hospitals. She said she wants to learn new teaching methods and evaluation tools. She will study Niagara's preparatory course as she wants to incorporate a similiar course at Northern.

Mrs. Jonescu said there is no research in universities and colleges teaching nursing.

"I'm looking at how we can develop knowledge and skills at research," she said. "I think Niagara has done some thinking through of this issue."

She said the faculty at Mack campus are well-organized, committed, and enthusiastic.

"I'm certainly impressed with the faculty and the teachers have been very open."

Sports

The Niagara Knights are the 1990-1991 International Collegiate Hockey League champions. This team photograph was taken moments after defeating Penn State for the championship.
Photo by Neville Lewis

Parcher's overtime goal wins hockey championship

By NEVILLE LEWIS
Staff Writer

A goal by Niagara's Lance Parcher 18 seconds into overtime gave the Knights their second consecutive International Collegiate League championship last Sunday.

Penn State's hopes of winning the title at Conestoga's Kenneth E. Hunter Centre in Kitchener were dashed earlier when Niagara centre Dan Ruetz, the playoff's Most Valuable Player, netted a goal with 1:21 remaining in the third period.

Niagara's outstanding, veteran defenceman Brian Rome set up the play which sent the game into overtime. He and Ken Bilodeau who was named to the ICHL's first All-Star team, received assists on Ruetz's goal.

In the overtime, veterans led the way for Niagara again. With the starting frontline of captain James Ward, Ruetz and Parcher — all members of the 1989-1990 championship team — the Knights were on the attack from the start of the game. This attitude paid off when Parcher caught the puck off a rebound and slapped the puck past Icers' goaltender John Gray and into the net.

The shot came from just inside the blueline. Gray moved to deflect it; he was too late. By the game clock, there were still 19:42 left in the extra period, but Niagara had come from behind to take the 1991 playoff title in sudden death.

Penn State, who had beaten host Conestoga College 3-2 in overtime the previous day, took an early lead when Geoff Martha opened up the scoring at 2:15 in the first period.

Niagara's reply came at 14:21 in the second when Rob Scriven, assisted by Rob Hoath, named to the ICHL's All-Star second team and Rome. Rome drove the puck towards the goal and Scriven skated from behind the net to push the puck into the back of it.

At 9:54, Rome passed the puck just in front of goal again. This time Simon Wayda shifted to the left and scored the goal which gave Niagara a 2-1 lead. Rome received his second of three assists while Jeff Mazi got an assist.

Two minutes later, Penn State scored two goals just over a minute apart and regained the lead. Josh Brandwene, the regular season's Most Valuable Player and Ross Cowan both scored with Cowan receiving an assist on Brandwene's goal.

The Icers lost the lead once more as Knights defenceman John Savarie, assisted by Scriven and Kent Loach, tied the game 3-3 at the end of the second period.

The Knights were the first to score in the third when Savarie netted his second goal while Simon and Bilodeau got assists.

Cowan's second goal for Penn at 12:59 tied the game, but the second-placed team in the regular season moved ahead 5-4 on goal at 11:09. And with just six minutes left, they had a chance to put the game away on a breakaway which saw Rome as the only Knight left to take on three Icers. Mike Ticknovich dove from the goal to stop the advancing Icers.

However, Penn controlled the tempo for the rest of the period until Ruetz netted a goal in the last two minutes for a 5-5 tie.

The game was a much different encounter from the previous day's semi-finals when Niagara started off with a 3-0 opening period run against first-placed Erie Community College. Erie had its first goal in the high-scoring game from a shot deflected by John Bacik, who was tending the Niagara goal.

Erie inched close with two more goals to Niagara's one. At the end of the period, the score was 4-3 in favor of Niagara.

However, in the second, they outscored Niagara three goals to one to take a 6-5 lead. But Parcher scored within 1:17 of the third. Another Erie goal returned them the lead which Niagara would soon capture for good after a succession of three goals.

In the 9-7 victory, Scriven had three goals, two in the third; Hoath had one goal and four assists; Parcher had one goal and three assists; Loach had one goal; Ruetz and Ward each had one goal and one assist; Mike Duerden had one goal and Rome received two assists.

Overall Niagara led their opponents by a margin of 10 shots on goal. They had 40 against Erie and 36 against Penn in the championship game.

If it's Friday, it's fish day

The Niagara College Foundation hopes to bait fish lovers to its annual Great Seafood Extravaganza on Friday, April 12 at the Victoria Park Restaurant in Niagara Falls, Ont.

The dinner will raise money for the Niagara College Hospitality and Tourism Centre fundraising campaign. It will feature all types of seafood and an array of salads and garnishes. Local wines will be served with the meal. A cash bar will be set up.

The evening also boasts to have the "largest Spanish Paella you'll ever see" - a large spicey stir-fry made with chicken, seafood and rice, Esther Dockman, secretary of Niagara College's foundation office, said.

"Last year 242 people attended the dinner and we are hoping for 300 this year," Mrs. Dockman said. "The dinner raised close to $12,000 last year."

The menu and ticket cost — $75 — remain the same as last year but tax receipts will be changed to cover the cost of the meal. Gabriel Fabi, chef at the Victoria Park Restaurant and a Niagara College graduate, will be preparing the dinner.

Anyone interested in attending can make reservations with Mrs. Dockman at extension 773 or 774. College staff at the various college campuses will also be selling tickets.

Tables for parties of eight to 10 people are available. However, the marketing department asks to be notified. A raffle will be part of the evening's events.

CANCER INFORMATION SERVICE
1-800-263-6718

Knights celebrate sweetest victory

By NEVILLE LEWIS
Staff Writer

The winning goal has just been scored. The entire team has converged in a huddle on the ice. The coach throws his arms up as if in defiance. He is hugs one of his assistants. In seconds, a small trickle of tears will be rolling down his cheeks.

For Fred Bassi, Niagara College hockey coach for the last 20 years and who had just steered his team to its fourth International Collegiate Hockey League title, it was a moment to celebrate.

Comment

This one was "sweeter" than the rest and only tears could render the occasion its true merit.

It was a long climb to the hilltop. In fact, it may be compared to running an emotional gauntlet or riding a wave with its ebbs and flows. There were nights when the locker room was filled with many jubilant voices and others when dejection hung heavily in the air.

There was the November night when Niagara beat Buffalo State Bengals 5-3 after defeating the University of Buffalo 9-3 on the road the previous night.

"We're back in the running. The guys did well. I'm happy for them. I'm happy for the way they play," coach Bassi said.

The mood at the C.C.'s Dugout, a bar in Welland, where the players always enjoy a few after-game drinks, was frivolity.

The Knights, a "team in transition" at the season's start were back. They had lost 8-3 to Conestoga College a week earlier, which the coach said was probably due to the Knights being overconfident. The previous Saturday they went down 5-1 to Conestoga in the season opener in which "we didn't have any life in it," coach Bassi said.

After the second loss, it sounded like a despairing crunch time, but "we're not panicking, we're a little bit nervous," he said.

Always optimistic, he maintained throughout the year that his team could win despite the Knights losing several of last year's ace players, despite his main goaltender missing three months because of a separated shoulder and despite his team going into the finals with a fourth place finish.

"We stand a good chance of winning," he said after the Penn State loss. But Conestoga came back to defeat them 11-2 in Kitchener. They not only suffered a resounding defeat but lost defenceman Chris Karpinchick for the rest of the season because of a separated shoulder. It was a sad night and a long, boring trip back to Welland.

"They stunk, write whatever you want, Neville," coach Bassi told me angrily.

But he was rewarded with a turnaround by the next weekend.

State College, Pa. was the place and the Knights played their best hockey of the year. They lost one game by a deflection, but recorded their first shutout against Penn in the team's history.

Coach Bassi and his team stood tall.

Their moment of truth was not long in coming. "If everybody does his best, positive things will happen," the coach said. They stopped Erie Community College, the regular season winner, 9-7 in the semi-finals and defeated favorite Penn State's aspiration for a second title in a sudden death 6-5 victory.

"Come on, guys, let's go," Josh Brandwene, a Penn State centre, said to his teammates as they left the locker room for the start of the overtime period. "Fire, fire, fire."

But, in the end, it was the tears of coach Bassi that put that fire out. It is hoped next year he will receive his laurels. For the last two years he has been nominated for coach of the year by the Welland Sports Promotion Committee and twice he was runner-up. Winning the first back-to-back title should make him a favorite next year. He deserves the award.

However, he accepts praise with humility, always putting Niagara College and the hockey Knights first. "It's nice to be nominated and get some recognition for the college and not just for me," he said.

Strong goaltending key to soccer tie

By KARI CHWIECZAK
Staff Writer
First-year journalism

Strong goaltending was the key to the Niagara College indoor soccer team's 2-2 tie with Pingue Construction in a game played Tuesday night at the Welland Indoor Soccer Dome.

Pingue Construction scored the first goal of the game on a shot beating Niagara goalie Steve McIntyre, who dived in an attempt to stop the ball.

Niagara, who play in the Mens B Blue Division, tied the score on a goal by Sal Iamarino.

Before the first half ended, Pingue Construction went ahead 2-1.

"McIntyre came up with key saves throughout the game," said Niagara coach Ed Fox. "He was outstanding."

Pingue Construction had numerous chances to score in the opening half, but the score remained 2-1 because of spectacular saves by McIntyre.

Niagara's final goal was scored by Frank Serra minutes into the second half.

Late in the game, Niagara pressured the opposing goalie with consecutive scoring attempts, but the goalie's steady balance kept the score tied.

"The whole game was exciting. The other team is good," Fox said.

"It was a brutal game," McIntyre said. "The other team has fast players. I mean, I didn't even see their first goal."

"We played well offensively, but thank God for the defence," said McIntyre.

Niagara's other outstanding defensive player was Iamarino.

The team record is one win, two losses and two ties. The team's next game is Tuesday, March 19 at the Welland Indoor Soccer Dome. Game time is 7 p.m.

Smooth sailing big challenge for SAC president

By DAVID REMPEL
Staff Writer

Like the captain of a huge ship battling rising seas and rocky shores, ever watchful for the hidden sholes the office of Student Administration Council president needs a steady hand.

Cory Abt is well acquainted with this image.

Throughout his one-year term as student council president, Cory has quickly learned the qualities which help keep SAC on an even keel and sailing smoothly — responsibility, commitment and dedication. As any SAC member, former or current, can attest, keeping an even keel can be a tough and full-time job.

"The responsibility of this job is tremendous," Cory said. "Being in SAC has kicked my butt into a whole new world. It's incredible how much I've learned here about the real world and how to make the system work for you."

Cory, an optimistic and genial second-year marketing student, said he looks upon his presidency as an education more than a duty and feels he learned more as SAC president than as a student.

SPIRIT DORMANT

"Council has been far more of an education than any of my courses have," he said. "I've learned more here in one day than in one month in my classes. It's unbelievable."

As SAC president, Cory got a true sense of student attitude at the college. But contrary to what many believe, he feels that school spirit is alive, but dormant, at Niagara.

"It's been difficult to concentrate on raising school spirit and morale here because there's so many more behind-the-scenes things we've had to deal with," he said. "But school spirit is there. Next year will be different. People will be getting together on campus more with the Knight's Quarters having been built. It's going to be great."

The new student centre was SAC's pet project this year.

"I am overwhelmed with enthusiasm about how this thing is shaping up," he said. "I'm very pleased with the construction, which is on schedule, and it should be open in the second week of May."

Cory agrees to having 20/20 hindsight with his position and feels the problems within SAC during his term should be brought to the attention of the incoming council.

INTERNAL FRICTION

"There seemed to be a lot of internal friction this year," he said. "I suppose it exists in every council but it was pretty evident here. It's hard having four people from the same course (on council) because of scheduling problems and the fact we see each other so much. (To next year's SAC) I would definitely stress developing communication between positions and school representatives as well.

It's hard having school representatives that don't show up."

"(Next year's SAC) should treat council more like a business than anything else. It has to be business-oriented, because SAC is a corporation."

When asked what changes he would have made, he responded with a grin and said,"I've thought about this."

"I would like to have given more responsibilities to the vice-presidents because I've got such a huge work-load. I have eight meetings a week to go to plus my other SAC stuff and my classes," he said. "I'd like to combine the positions of athletic vice-president and external vice-president and have six vice-presidents instead of seven. We would then have nine on council plus class representatives."

CHAIRMAN NEEDED

"I'd like to hire someone to chair the (SAC) meetings, too. Every SAC member is elected to represent students and when one member is chairing the meeting, he can't vote. Chairing a meeting negates a valuable vote.

"I'd like to have a training session for the next council," he said. "I'd really like to take them through the paces. The guys on last year's council really didn't tell us much about the job, so we pretty much had to teach ourselves."

Regardless of the trials and tribulations which Cory faced, he has resolved to run for president again.

"I want to make sure that what we started this year will be finished next year," he said. "There has to be some continuity. I have some experience and to expect a president to walk in green next year and be expected to know everything about what we've done is insanity.

"It's a huge position with a lot of responsibility and sacrifices," he said. "I want to do it again."

ESL liaison beneficial to college: Brock professor

By CATHERINE DENISON
Staff Writer

Niagara College and Brock University will benefit from establishing a co-operative relationship between their respective English as a Second Language (ESL) programs, Glen Irons, 39-year-old Brock associate professor and director Applied Linguistics, said.

"For our purpose it would be great if they (Niagara College) had a thriving program that our Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) students could either work in or do internships in. That would be wonderful, especially if they (the college) were open to that possibility;" he said.

Brock University cannot accept all the foreign student applications it receives for intensive English programs, non-credit courses for non-university students, he said.

"We should make the connection because of the overflow," Dr. Irons said.

Niagara College is slow to get into the English as a Second Language market. To broaden the program, administrative staff and faculty should travel extensively to other countries to recruit students, he said.

Gaylene Levesque, Niagara College English as a Second Language instructor, said she looks forward to liaising with Brock in the future; however, at present the college is unable to accommodate placements for Brock Teaching English as a Second Language students due to a difference in scheduling.

"Our ESL students are finishing when Brock teaching students are beginning their practicum," she said.

CO-OPERATIVE RELATIONS

Mrs. Levesque agrees with Dr. Irons that a co-operative relationship would benefit both institutions as Niagara's English as a Second Language program expands. Last August she contacted John Sivell, chairman of Brock's Department of Applied Language Studies, to affirm the college's interest in working together, she said.

Niagara College began its first full-time English as a Second Language program for visa (foreign) students last fall through the new Centre for Language Studies. The federal government has recently agreed to fund full-time English as a Second Language immigrant and refugee students for the general college course. This makes Niagara the only college in the province, subject to the Academic Officers Committee approval, to offer the program. Previously the government funded only one college year of English as a Second Language instruction.

Dr. Irons has a bachelor's degree in drama and film studies from Brock; two masters degrees from SUNY (State University of New York at Buffalo): one in media studies and the other in English Literature; and a PhD in English Literature from SUNY.

Dr. Irons' book, Second Language Acquisition: Selected Readings in Theory and Practice, is used in the bachelor of education Teaching English as a Second Language degree program at Brock. Dr. Irons has two books due to be published in 1992 by the University of Toronto Press: Comparative Phonology and one on popular narrative genres.

Dr. Irons has taught English in Japan, Korea, France, the United States, and Morocco. While on sabbatical in 1988, he taught at the Universite Paul Valery at Montpelier, France for six months; and at the University of Reading in England for another six months. He learned to speak fluent French while living in France and Morocco.

Dr. Irons was hired to organize and teach English as a Second Language courses at Brock University in 1981.

CENTRE BORN

"I was simply hired to set up and teach them, but I quickly realized that there were going to be 200 students coming in that needed ESL courses that fall, so I asked Dean McGraw, my boss at the time, if I could hire four more people and therein was born the Centre for English Language programs. That was the birth of the ESL program at Brock," he said.

There are now five separate programs that were spawned by the first English as a Second Language courses: Intensive English, University Level English as a Second Language, Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL), Applied Linguistics, and Oriental Languages, an autonomous program.

"The department that exists now that all those programs are under — and it's unique in Canada, absolutely unique — came into being in 1985, and it's called the Department of Applied Language Studies. All of that was generated out of the original program that I was hired to develop," Dr. Irons said.

Brock's department of Applied Language Studies is unique in Canada because it came out of the desire of English as a Second Language teachers to create a program that would train applied linguists and teachers of second languages, Dr. Irons said.

PROGRAM UNIQUE

"There was no departmental structure for us to exist in and we had to create our own and that's why our program is unique in Canada. We have that symbiosis . . . The students in the advanced TESL bachelor of education degree actually end up teaching and doing research in intensive English courses and sometimes they're hired (at Brock) when they graduate. So there's a nice kind of symbiosis that rarely occurs in any university I know of . . . . that involves training of ESL instructors and linguists who can get hands-on experience, and that's been our (Brock's) main strength," Dr. Irons said.

Dr. Irons has had help and support at every stage of expansion, particularly from John Sivell, chairman of the Department of Applied Language Studies, and John Benjafield, professor of psychology.

"You can never do anything in a university without having that kind of support."

The department of Applied Language Studies now has a staff of 10 permanent faculty members and a secretary. In any given term the department employs between 10 to 30 part-time language instructors and seven to 10 language monitors in the summer.

"It's a huge operation in comparison with what it began as . . . . The numbers in our courses have increased yearly since its inception — with the exception of the university level ESL program — which has dwindled from 200 enrolments to about 40 or 50," Dr. Irons said.

The university level English as a Second Language program was initiated to upgrade English language skills of foreign students who wished to obtain degrees from Brock. Prohibitively high tuition fees have caused the decline in enrolments, he said.

"The university level ESL upgrading tuition has gone up 500 per cent for foreign students and those were our clientele for that program. So it's gone from $1,000 to $1,200 when I came here in 1981 to almost $6,000 — so there are very few foreign students now in Ontario universities," Dr. Irons said.

Community colleges are in a favorable position regarding foreign students. The government funds students to take work-study programs at the colleges but not for degree programs at universities, he said.

'They (community colleges) make a fortune on them — $150 a week," Dr. Irons said.

It's ironic the foreign students who allowed him to create the English as a Second Language program in the first place have disappeared from the degree programs because of the backward looking attitude of the government in raising fees to that extent, he said.

"As far as I know, Ontario has the highest differential (in the country). It's an outrage," he said.

English as a Second Language programs are fairly recent in Canada. The oldest intensive English program in the country is probably at maximum only 25 years old, Dr. Irons said.

"There wasn't that kind of global movement that there is now. There wasn't that kind of wealth to do this — even in Japan. There wasn't the prestige of English. The need to communicate internationally in English has really come into being since about the mid 70s — and it could change but it isn't likely to change in the immediate future," he said.

The majority of scholarly journals, computer programs, and international communications — even in China, Japan and Russia — use English, Dr. Irons said.

RNs mentors to students in new college program

The refresher registered nursing (RN) course offered at Niagara College will add preceptorship to its program at the end of April, Noreen Casson, development officer for continuing education, said.

A preceptor is a teacher or mentor. In the preceptorship program, a student is matched with a qualified graduate registered nurse.

The refresher course is offered every two years to people with their registered nurse diploma who have been out of acute care nursing and wish to update their education. The participants attend evening classes from September to June for one year, Mrs. Casson said.

The preceptorship for long-term care will be done at the Shaver Hospital in St. Catharines; the St. Catharines General Hospital and Hotel Dieu Hosptial will do the preceptorship for medical-surgical care.

The next refresher registered nursing course will begin September 1992, Mrs. Casson said.

College pursues anti-recessionary program

By JENNIFER BARTKIW
Staff Writer

Niagara College is pursuing an anti-recessionary government program for laid-off apprentices in the Niagara region.

The Ontario Ministry of Skills Development announced at the end of February its $6-million initiative to help laid-off apprentices. "Each community has been asked to look at their labor market with respect to laid-off apprentices," Dan Patterson, vice-president of community ventures, said.

Niagara College is taking an aggressive role in looking at how it can take advantage of the new program and help meet the training needs. "The approach is in line with the way Ventures wants to do business — through partnerships," Mr. Patterson said.

The implementation will occur through a community-based network of community industrial training committees, local apprenticeship committees, local labor councils and college of applied arts and technology. "We are starting to make contact with the Niagara Industrial Training Advisory Committee (NITAC)," Mr. Patterson said. "We (Niagara College) would like to be the trainer and deliverer of the activities needed to help the laid-off apprentices."

Mr. Patterson said he thinks the new program is an excellent opportunity. "We have a very important role to play in the community. We have the infrastructure, programs and services to help people upgrade and retrain — so when jobs become available people have the required skills."

TRAINING INTERRUPTED

Apprentices are often the first employees laid-off when a company is struggling in tough economics times. The majority of an apprentice's training is spent on-the-job rather than in the classroom. If a company lays-off an apprentice the training is interrupted.

Niagara College has apprenticeship programs offered at two campuses: cook II program at the Hospitality Tourism Centre and general machinists, tool an die maker, industrial mechanic millwright and motor vehicle mechanic programs at the St. Catharines campus.

George Rowbottom, director of technical trades training, said the St. Catharines campus' apprenticeships are "employer-based programs" where students spend eight to nine per cent of their time in the classroom. "There has been no problems or any significant loss (laid-off apprentices)," he said.

Stanley West, co-ordinator of culinary arts, proposed laid-off cook II apprenticeship program students could be apprenticed by the program. They would be put to work in the Hospitality and Tourism Centre's dining room and kitchen. A small number of students were laid-off but it hasn't become a major problem, he said.

Once laid-off many apprentices never go back to complete their training and lose the opportunity to become fully qualified journeymen (a worker qualified to work in a specified trade). "This program is trying to address the gap created by that disruption," Mr. Patterson said.

ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

There are various forms of assistance for laid-off apprentices wanting to continue learning their trade: counselling (individual or group settings), accelerated training (in-school training rescheduled to coincide with the lay-off period), placement assistance (continuance of training through one or more employer) and alternative workplace training (technical skills taught in an environment similar to the workplace).

Niagara College will collaborate and partner with other community-based groups to design the training programs. "We hope to mount a program that is successful and demonstrates the college's commitment to helping the community — in particular those individuals who are laid-off," Mr. Patterson said.

Information is being collected. A submission will be made to the Ministry of Skills Development in April for the possible establishment of a laid-off apprentice program at Niagara College. "I am the college lead in terms of making contact with the apprenticeship office, employers and NITAC. We will meet together to develop a joint proposal," Mr. Patterson said.

ASSISTING THE LAUNCH

Niagara College feels it can offer many things to help the program get off the ground: organize meetings, develop curriculum for trade programs, design training programs, deliver training and market the program.

The program could start before September. "As soon as you can get a submission in to the Ministry of Skills Development they will evaluate it and give you the okay or not," Mr. Patterson said.

The proposal will reflect the amount of money to be received. "They will approve a certain amount of money — that is your authority to implement the program," Mr. Patterson said. "We are hoping to get a reasonable share."

The laid-off apprentices are being recognized because of their long term training commitment, Mr. Patterson said. "They are particularly vulnerable in the downturn. When they are laid-off the training is interrupted and many people don't continue."

Progress still needed

Women's Day speaker reflects on changes

By HELEN PARKINSON
Staff Writer

International Women's Day is a time to celebrate the progress of equality; it is also a time to reflect on the progress that has yet to come. Unfortunately, the movement has a long way to go.

"The women's movement is very much more diverse and sophisticated than it was 20 years ago; we need to work with this diversity and understand how change can be advanced," Dr. Susan Clark, the keynote speaker at the International Women's Day seminar held Saturday at St. Catharines Collegiate, said.

Dr. Clark spoke to about 100 women, ranging in age from 19 to 80 years, with the majority between the ages of 30 and 50. She told of how Canadian women should consider themselves privileged, but said they had a responsibility to women living in Third World countries.

"International Women's Day causes us to reflect on our privileges and think about women who have little or no schooling, virtually no health care system, little if any control over their own lives and their own bodies, are victims of famines and of war and yet struggle to live with dignity, caring for their children and their families against all odds."

DISADVANTAGED

Globally, women make up 50 per cent of the adult population and perform two-thirds of the working hours. Women own one per cent of the world's property and receive one-tenth of international revenue.

Most women are living in Third World countries and because their economies are slight so are the opportunities for improvements for women, Dr. Clark said.

"As second class citizens, women bear a disproportionate burden of economic failure and with it even less of a chance that their circumstances — social, legal, familial — will and can be improved."

Dr. Clark told how two-thirds of the world's illiterate were women and that the gap between men and women was widening. "In 17 poor countries over 90 per cent of the women are illiterate." Because of the social and economic conditions of these countries, women tend to look after their families before themselves.

"Think of what the world would be like if all that energy and creativity of women was free so that they could be full and equal partners in a developing country," she said.

But while Third World women struggle for equality, the women in western society have made some monumental changes. Economically, the wage gap has slightly decreased: women used to earn 60 cents for every $1 earned by a man. Women now make about 66 cents. Although hard economic times have affected family structures around North America, one group of women has made substantial ground: the unmarried, white, young, and well-educated.

FIGHT CONTINUES

While pay equity gaps in Canada diminish, there are other issues that require re-assessment. Continually, women experience high rates of abuse and violence in their homes. While shelters for battered women have assisted women to leave violent situations, she said, underfunding threatens to eliminate this assistance.

"We (women) are still engaged in the fight for control of our bodies — whether in relation to the health care system, or reproductive rights."

Contrary to popular belief, the women's movement has not had as great an effect on society as it should have. But, she said, notable changes have been made.

"We have gained our voice in that we have begun to define the issues that are important to us. We are not simply reacting to someone else's agenda."

She said people can no longer say they are unaware of the injustices towards women. "I think we have once and for all cut away that veil . . ."

Perhaps, she said, it was time to look at the solutions. Native, immigrant and disabled women's rights still need assessment. "Clearly, there is still much work to be done."

While some people believe women are engaged in a silent revolution, Dr. Clark feels their silence is a disadvantage. "We have to move forward in creating a new world which we know has to come about and which we also know would be a far better world for everyone — women, children, and men."

Although the focus of her speech was global change, locally Dr. Clark said there have been gains. Brock University will be offering courses in the field of women's studies in the fall.

The celebration, held at St. Catharines Collegiate, was a first for the Niagara Region and had a turnout beyond organizers' expectations.

Visiting the newsroom

Twenty-seven Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School students visited the journalism-print newsroom last Thursday as part of their media studies section of an English writing class. The group, escorted by marketing associate Monique Morin of the college's marketing and community relations division, toured the Welland campus including a stop at the radio and television broadcasting program's facilities. Here, Lorra[illegible]e Gibbs, a second-year journalism student, explains the paste-up process.

Photo by Dave Johnson

Entertainment

The Doors

Sex, drugs, rock and roll

By ROBERT FINLAY
Staff Writer

"There are things known and things unknown, and in between are the doors . . . " — Jim Morrison.

It is a testament to Jim Morrison's powerful persona that 21 years after his death he is the subject of a major motion picture by one of Hollywood's most powerful directors, Oliver Stone.

'Powerful' is the operative word here. This is a powerful movie.

Movie Review

Weaving scenes of native Indian mysticism, poetic philosophizing and blatant rock 'n roll hedonism, Mr. Stone paints a frightening, provocative picture of a man "pushing the boundaries."

Watching Jim Morrison in this movie is like watching an automobile accident — you can't help but look.

Val Kilmer (better known as pretty-boy pilot 'Iceman' in Top Gun) is an eerie look-alike for Jim Morrison, handling the physicality of the role well with his twisting, hyperactive stage performances. Kyle MacLaughlan (Twin Peaks' agent Cooper) plays keyboardist Ray Manzerek, Kevin Dillon plays drummer John Densmore and Frank Whaley plays guitarist Robbie Krieger.

Although the Doors are the inspiration for the title of the movie, lead singer Morrison *is* the movie.

The film loosely follows the Doors from their humble beginnings in Los Angeles clubs to filling concert halls as semi-messianic figures of 1960s counter-culture. From the start, Morrison is portrayed as an enigma, a poetic non-conformist struggling to communicate. One scene, set at UCLA film school where Morrison went in his early 20's, has the instructor asking Morrison to interpret one of his film projects to the class. His reply is terse: "I quit."

This kind of tortured-poet anti-social behavior is a guide to Morrison's actions throughout the movie as he manages to infuriate club owners, cops, girlfriends, band members — and television censors in one scene on the Ed Sullivan Show.

Some may question the truthfulness of everything portrayed in this movie (the real John Densmore was consulted on the movie, but Ray Manzarek maintains not all of it is accurate). From what is common knowledge, however, we can assume that certainly there was much more to the Doors and Jim Morrison than met the eye in the 1960s, and that certainly holds true today.

This movie is not for the puritanical; scenes of alcoholism, drug use and sex permeate the film. Morrison is shown with all his strengths and weaknesses intact: neither saint nor devil, genius or idiot.

Mr. Stone's film provides insights not only into Jim Morrison, but also into what artistic energy and individuality is all about. Whether you like the Doors or not, this is a film to see.

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Martin movie succeeds only at confusing

By ROBERT FINLAY
Staff Writer

Depending on your point of view, Steve Martin's new film L.A. Story is one of two things: a touching love story or a classic example of an advertising bait-and-switch.

Movie Review

While it is not uncommon to find the movie you saw on the television commercial trailers is not the movie you paid to see, L.A. Story is a rare example of a film that actually changes genres before your very eyes. From the sight gags (four cars at a four way stop intersection simultaneously crashing into each other) to the clever one liners ("You study conversation?" "Yes.") you may expect a searing lampooning of Los Angeles lifestyle. While there are some of those clever moments, the movie seems to veer wildly in the direction of (gasp!) a romantic comedy.

Steve Martin plays TV weatherman Harris Telemacher, an unfulfilled soul lost in the shallowness of Los Angeles. Martin falls for an English journalist (his real-life wife Victoria Tennant) visiting L.A.

Mr. Martin's character (a minor point, as the script is based on his experiences) muddles through most of the movie doing basically what the audience is doing — trying to figure out what the hell is going on. One scene after another weaves touchy-feely philosophy with subtle comedic digs at L.A. lifestyle — interesting, but a tad incompatible.

L.A. Story is, unfortunately, an example of an obviously uncommercial movie given the commercial treatment. Part comedy, part love story, L.A. Story succeeds at only one thing — confusion.

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Piety, domination rule Black Rainbow

By TARA GRABELL
Staff Writer

Queen of Heaven, who inhabits the secret places of the woods, be propitious unto us. Mistress of life, white lady; shelter by spring and stone the sharers of thy peace. Virgin and Mother, sower of seed and bearer of fruit, accept our sacrifice so that we who serve you may be granted justice, and long life in the service of justice.

So concludes a novel fraught with the mysteries of Catholicism and the age-old tradition of male dominance. Scattered liberally throughout Barbara Michael's newest novel Black Rainbow, the words of veneration and the acts of devotion to God create a shroud of virtuous piety over the ever-present blackness of hidden vices.

Black Rainbow, set in the English countryside, follows the lives of three main characters over a two-year period as they collide in battles of wit and will in a bizarre plot of confused loyalties and deadly assumptions.

Book Review

The story begins as a tale of quaint romance. The reader is first introduced to the handsome, but eccentric, owner of Grayhaven Manor, Edmund Mandeville, who dismisses lightly then strangely welcomes warmly the adoring attentions of the devout Catholic governess, Megan O'Neill. The romance, though, is never as it should be. There remains an underlying current of darkness in Mr. Mandeville's affection towards the shy, withdrawn girl, whom he accepts as his wife after being spurned by another woman.

Thrown in with an eclectic collection of characters is Jane Mandeville, Edmund's spinsterish sister who with her strong feminist ideals feels that "if they (women) have freedom of choice it is a freedom bestowed on them by the men who own them — a privilege, not a right." It is Jane's stubbornness to refuse to concede to the male-dominated system of the mid-1800s that frees both herself, Megan and her child, and the rest of the household at Grayhaven.

The book alternates between the viewpoints of Megan and Jane. The two characters — Megan, who has lived a life of toil and drudgery, and Jane, who has lived a life free of want — form a relationship that weathers the storms of one man's obsession with status in the English nobility.

Edmund's insane obsession leads him to commit heinous acts against his own kin and it grows apace towards the justified conclusion the reader expects for a character so essentially evil.

Ms. Michaels, who has written 10 best-selling novels, writes with clarity and close attention to detail. Her innovative use of unpredictability in her plots and subplots maintains the suspense until her dramatic conclusion.

She ends this unique combination of mystery, romance, and horror much as Shakespeare would have done after an intense scene — quietly with the faded, but still beautiful words of praise . . . *Queen of Heaven, who inhabits the secret places of the woods, be propitious unto us. Mistress of life, white lady; shelter by spring and stone the sharers of thy peace . . .*

Black Rainbow is now available in paperback in most bookstores for $5.95. The 354-page book is published by Berkley Books.

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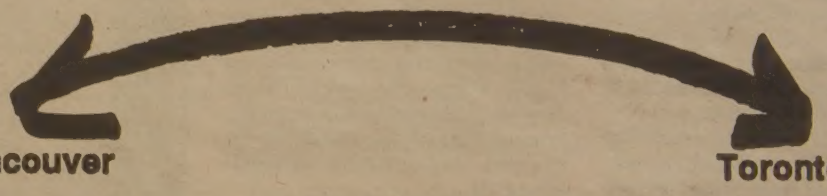

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TRAVEL CUTS
Going Your Way!

Exhibit a scrapbook of artist's life

By TARA GRABELL
Staff Writer

Frances Turnbull's life and art hang in only three rooms of a museum.

In those three rooms of the Welland Historical Museum lies a fascinating collection of artwork completed over a 75-year period and a wonderful scrapbook-on-a-wall history of her life.

Born in 1900 in Smithville, Ont., Mrs. Turnbull died in a fire last July 22, 1990, in her dilapidated River Road home in Welland. With her died a lifestory of interesting experiences and unusual talent.

Ninety years of age, Mrs. Turnbull appeared to be a fragile, old woman, but her looks were deceiving. She was a woman who lived life to the fullest till she died. "She was fiercely independent," Mac Swackhammer, Welland Historical Museum curator, said.

Mrs. Turnbull spent most of her life living alone in the Victorian house her father built almost a century before. But she wasn't homebound by any means. "She was always outrageous," Mr. Swackhammer said when explaining how she would often break social rules and come late to church and art meetings. "She didn't flout or flaunt social niceties."

After finishing high school, Mrs. Turnbull, known then by her maiden name Frances Heslop, became more involved in art. With her family's approval, she enrolled in the Albright Art School in Buffalo, N.Y., under the tutelage of Urquhart Wilcox. "(She showed a) talent for art and her family was favorably inclined," Mr. Swackhammer said.

However, she returned from the school without completing her training and began work in a bank. But she continued sketching and painting.

SCHOOLGIRL CHARM

In 1927, Mrs. Turnbull married Andrew Turnbull and shortly afterwards they had a daughter, Deborah. A letter she wrote to Mr. Turnbull prior to their marriage is on display at the museum. It is a charming schoolgirl letter written by a lady who was "a lot of fun.... (She had) quite a sparkle," Mr. Swackhammer ruminated.

Her marriage eventually dissolved near the end of the 1930s. Mrs. Turnbull returned to live with her family in their River Road home. Mr. Turnbull died in 1967, but "she always maintained he was away on business," Mr. Swackhammer said, a note of sympathy in his voice.

In the 1940s, she returned to the Albright Art School in Buffalo to take up oil painting, an art form she mastered in five years.

For the next five decades, she gained the reputation of being an eccentric, collecting everything she could. Her home was often stacked high with boxes of items she kept. "She saved absolutely everything," Mr. Swackhammer said. It was her penchant to turn her house into a literal storehouse and her personal appearance that made her unique to the community. "She looked a bit out of the ordinary," he said and added she almost always wore gloves and a hat as her upbringing demanded. He said some people had misconceptions about her attitude towards people. "She wasn't snobbish or aloof in any way," he said.

But her talent as an artist and her reputation for excellent work was perhaps more her trademark, particularly among the art community. Although working continuously, she found time to help painters just starting out. "Frances was always interested in young painters," Mr. Swackhammer said, adding she always gave good criticism.

ARTWORK SALVAGED

During her career, she was a member of the Niagara District Art Association, the Ontario Art Gallery, Rodman Hall, a Port Colborne art association, and the Welland Brush and Palette Club. Mrs. Turnbull was a founding member of the Joan of Arc chapter of the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire.

After the house fire last year, the Welland Historical Museum removed as many of her paintings, drawings and sketches as possible — over 300 in all. "The museum took responsibility to salvage and preserve the artwork," Mr. Swackhammer said.

"They were all in a mess .... There's still work to be done," Mr. Swackhammer said. The restoration process of cleaning, drying and preserving has been ongoing for the past six months. However, the artwork is only "in their care" as it is the family's property.

Mr. Swackhammer, a serious, dark-haired man, added he was disappointed the museum was unable to find the commissioned piece Mrs. Turnbull was working on at the time of her death and as well, her last palette.

The exhibit, covering the span of years from 1915 to 1990, has been divided into these four parts: the work she did on commission for other people; the work salvaged from her home last July after the fire; her process as an artist from sketch to actual painting; and her personal information in the form of over 300 photos and documents.

Interestingly, some of Mrs. Turnbull's work was shown in an exhibit in the early 1980s at Niagara College's Hennepin Hall. Many of those paintings had never been before, Mr. Swackhammer said.

He said the current exhibit, six months after her death, was staged because many of Mrs. Turnbull's friends were getting along in years and he wanted them to see this display of her artwork.

Students with an interest in unique art can view the Frances Turnbull Art Exhibit at the Welland Historical Museum, 65 Hooker St., Welland, until June 2, 1991. The museum is open Tuesday to Saturday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Charity walkathon stumbles from lack of participation

It was a disappointing turnout for the 1991 Aid for Africa Walkathon last Saturday despite warm temperatures.

"Eleven people came out to walk, plus three people who had been to Africa came just to give us support," Brigitta Verbraeken, walkathon co-ordinator, said.

"Some of the girls found the walk shorter, others longer than they expected," Brigitta said. "There were a few sore legs the next day!"

The five-mile (eight-kilometre) walkathon started and finished at the cafeteria entrance of the Black Walnut building.

"It was almost like being out hiking because of the snowbanks we had to climb. A policeman hit us with radar, but I guess we weren't going fast enough because he didn't stop us!" she said.

Brigitta said she doesn't know as yet how much money was raised. " I am hoping to reach the $800 mark, but $1,000 would be nice. I don't think we'll hit that mark. Still, that's pretty good for 11 or 12 people."

The person who raised the most funds will receive the grand prize — a slave for a day.

Everyone who participated "have reason to be proud," Brigitta said. "It's too bad there weren't more involved. Everybody is busy I guess."

Walkathon funds go to CPPS Missions project, stationed at 540 St. Clair Ave., West, Toronto, and will be used for medical, agricultural and skilled labor projects in Tanzania, Africa.

Bullpit

It's not easy being a student

By KAREN GIBSON
Staff Writer

The dreaded Bullpit — every journalism student's biggest challenge. An opportunity to write about anything you want.

This is the last newspaper to be produced by this year's second-year journalism graduates. What topic can possibly be written about without committing the sinful act of repetition?

Budget details, parking woes, smoking violations, the Persian Gulf war, the mini-cafeteria gauntlet — all have been covered.

What newsworthy item is college related and will capture reader interest? What ultimate topic will leave the reader either incensed with outrage or nodding with approval? How can an editorial, comment, or Bullpit get reactions that result in the best compliment a writer can receive — letters to the editor.

It's not easy being a student. A student's life is a constant juggling act.

There is the never-ending toss-up between school work and social life. There are precarious days when everything seems up in the air and threatens to come tumbling down.

A proficient juggler not only juggles the books, but also the bank balance. As the cash flow takes a dive, the question arises, "Will it be maxi- or mini-cafeteria food today?"

New performers get in the act tossing more homework your way than you can handle. A silent prayer goes out for a third hand and a few more seconds.

It seems like curtains when poor test results cause student performance to plummet, while good test results sends the student on a high-wire act.

Competition between acts flourishes as students see who can juggle the most.

There are no safety nets under this juggling act — a student either passes or fails.

It's not easy being a student; it's a hard act to follow.

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Get with the 25th!

Don't forget to wear your 25th anniversary t-shirt Monday, March 25! You could be a winner!

If one of the roving t-shirt spotters sees you wearing your Niagara College 25th Anniversary t-shirt you will win one of the chosen prizes.

T-shirts are available for $10.50 in medium, large and x-large sizes at the Welland Campus bookstore only.

Show your school spirit!

Monday March 25th

Nursing assistants battle against misconceptions

By ROBBIE CRAINE
Staff Writer

Ontario's registered nursing assistants (RNAs) hope their title will be changed soon.

They applied to the Ontario government to change the name to Licenced Practical Nurse (LPN), but the new title will probably be Registered Practical Nurse (RPN), Verna Steffler, executive director and chairman of public relations for the Ontario Association of Registered Nursing Assistants, said.

"In the first place, we wanted to get rid of the word 'assistant'," Mrs. Steffler said.

Three Canadian provinces and 48 U.S. states are using the LPN title. In Ontario, RNAs are waiting for the title to receive legislative approval, expected by year end, Mrs. Steffler said.

"It (RPN) will better define the role we play."

The RNA provides hands-on bedside care in hospitals, Toby McCreadie, an RNA at the St. Catharines General Hospital and chief stewart for the hospital's Service Employees International Union Local 204, said.

"An RNA is someone who provides the utmost in professional care for her patient — and so is a (registered nurse)," Mrs. McCreadie said.

In most hospitals, RNAs do the hands-on nursing while RNs start intravenous drips, monitor tube feedings, give medications, and write care plans, Mrs. McCreadie said. Some hospitals let the RNAs take blood pressures, wrap sterile dressings, and start intravenous drips. Some RNAs have their medications certificates as well.

"We have a lot of the same skills the RNs have," Mrs. McCreadie said.

Due to some hospitals' job descriptions of RNs and RNAs, the RNAs cannot use all their skills, she said.

'If you don't use them (your skills) everyday, you do lose them."

Mrs. McCreadie said Webster's Dictionary defines a nurse as "someone who gives care to the sick and the elderly." She said she believes RNAs and RNs are parts of a team of nurses.

Mrs. McCreadie and Mrs. Steffler said the Ontario Nurses Association fought the name change, believing only RNs should use the title "nurse." When contacted, the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario would not discuss the name change.

"We really don't have anything to say," Joan Pipher, public relations officer, said.

Some RNAs have petitioned the Ontario government for equal representation on the College of Nurses Council, Mrs. McCreadie said. RNs outnumber RNAs on the council. As Ontario has a new government, the RNAs must wait to see what action will be taken.

The public may have misconceptions of an RNA's role, Mrs. McCreadie said. Some people believe RNAs are not smart enough to take the RN course.

"I like being an RNA; I like doing bedside nursing care," she said.

Another misconception is registered *nursing* assistants are registered *nurses'* assistants, only there to help the RNs in their duties, Mrs. McCreadie said.

"I think it (the proposed name change) is great," she said. "People will realize that we (the RNAs) are not just there to run and fetch things."

Fashion arts show on at Seaway Mall

By LYNN DRAPEAU
Staff Writer
First-year journalism

The second-year fashion arts students have produced an artistic show, which began yesterday at Welland's Seaway Mall, featuring spring and summer fashions of 1991.

Anne-Marie Gow and Melanie Webster, two second-year students in the program, produced the show. Two second-year coproducers are Kristen Butler, who helps with props, and Renee Lambert, who helps with publicity.

The first showing was last night. The show will run tonight at 7:30 p.m. with two shows tomorrow at 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The shows are about 40 minutes long.

Three first-year students helping behind-the-scenes with models are Joanne Cuccia, Anna Neor, and Tracey Morris. The latter is displaying one of her own designs.

The fourth first-year student participating is Angela Enns who will be playing Pierre, the show's main character. Dressed as a man she will be sitting on stage and turning over cards bearing the names of the stores sponsoring each segment.

The show's theme is surreal, artsy and colorful with no black. The backdrop "looks like someone dumped a can of paint from the ceiling," Kristen said.

Admission to the show is free. Back to Basics Marketing, an agency in the mall, is funding it. Secrets Modeling Agency of Niagara Falls has supplied all the models.

Sexuality workshop successful

Sex was a hot topic Saturday, March 9 at the first major celebration of International Women's Day in the Niagara region.

The morning workshop — Women's Sexuality: Finding Our Own Voice — was extremely successful said Ann Bown, Brock University's sexual harrassment adviser.

Discussion leaders Ms. Bown, Sheila Nicholson, a sexuality counsellor and Liz Clarke, an assistant women's studies instructor at Brock University, provided guidance to over 75 women in group discussions about women and their sexuality.

The audience split into groups of 10 to make discussion more personal. One group contained six students from Niagara College.

The discussion leaders were impressed with the turnout. "I expected about 20 and Sheila expected 50, so we're very happy," Ms. Bown said.

Survey shows pattern

Nurses' wage-rates differ

Graduates of registered nursing (RN) and registered nursing assistant (RNA) courses will find their salaries different, with the RN making over $2 an hour more than the RNA.

In a survey of Niagara region hospitals, the spokesmen said RNs make $16.81 an hour. The RNs in Ontario are members of the Ontario Nurses' Association. Their wages should increase soon. A ratification vote on a tentative agreement was held yesterday. Results are not available.

Local RNAs do not have a unified pay rate. As the RNAs have various unions representing them, and the Ontario Hospital Association bargains separately with each hospital, the pay rates vary among hospitals.

The lowest rate quoted by a hospital spokesman for RNAs is $14.11 an hour at Port Colborne General Hospital; the highest rate is $14.756 at Welland County General Hospital. Shaver Hospital in St. Catharines pays their RNAs $14.33 while St. Catharines General Hospital gives $14.571 to theirs.

Greater Niagara General Hospital refused to release salary information. A phone call to Service Employees' International Union Local 204 revealed the RNAs at Greater Niagara receive $14.59 an hour.

Douglas Memorial Hospital in Fort Erie and Hotel Dieu Hospital in St. Catharines refused to give salary information.

BE A REGULAR BLOOD DONOR

Keeping the repo-man unemployed

By JOAN GREAVES
Staff Writer

The bills pile up on your desk as you pick up the mail each day. You're afraid to open them. You have no money. So they stay there, ignored.

The telephone begins to ring. Bell Canada wants money by Wednesday, or your service will be cut off. Your Visa payment is three months overdue, and they're leaving messages on your answering machine. What should you do?

A call to Credit Counselling of Regional Niagara may help ward off the repo-person. Don't put it off too long, as there's a two-week waiting period for help.

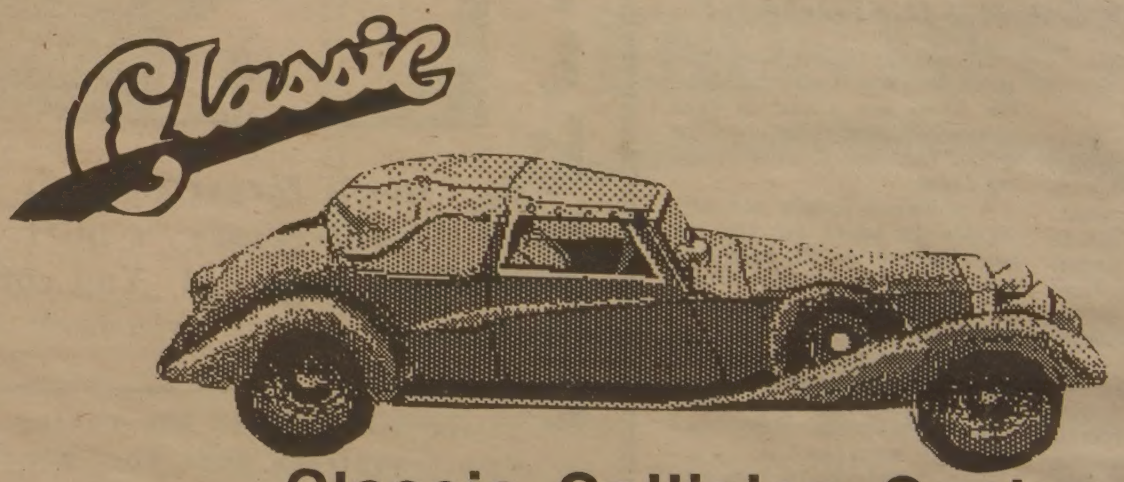
"We're really busy," Michael Mates, executive director, said. He attributed this to the recession and reduced income for many people. "Many have a 70 per cent (of gross income) debt load," he said.

"We try to keep the creditors happy," he said, although they want their payments immediately.

Mr. Mates said very few of their clients were students, despite the availability of credit cards after completion of one year of post-secondary education.

The credit counselling office, located at 6 Dunlop Dr., St. Catharines, receives funding from the United Way. An appointment can be made by calling 684-9401.

"We have few repeat customers," Mr. Mates said, noting that many people would be too embarrassed to admit defeat.



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Feelings of Wuling video snares top award

By JENNIFER BATKIW
Staff Writer

A 30-minute video co-production made by Niagara College and Changsha University in China won a national award in China as an educational documentary.

"The Chinese director took the video to an educational media conference in Nanjing, China. He informed us that at the conference it was awarded first prize for educational video," Brian Green, radio and television instructor who was involved with the project, said.

The award was presented in October and Mr. Green and Keith Lindberg, manager of media services and co-director of the video, received the certificates just before Christmas. It was a complete surprise to know the film was submitted to win an award, Mr. Lindberg said.

Mr. Green, Mr. Lindberg and the Chinese crew made the Chinese video titled Feelings of Wuling, scheduled to air in two five-minute segments Saturday from 9:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. on Channel 47's Chinese program called Tangram.

"I contacted the Chinese programming department back in August-September and explained to them Brian and I had this program. I sent them a tape and suggested if they wanted to use it to get back to me," Mr. Lindberg said.

At the end of February Mr. Green and Mr. Lindberg were informed the video would air on the program.

A 2½-month exchange trip to Niagara College's twin school in China, Changsha University, led Mr. Green and Mr. Lindberg to the remote region of China — Wuling — to assist the Chinese crew in making a 30-minute travelogue promoting the area as a tourist destination.

"The video co-production was an assignment Changsha University's media department had while we were there (China). We went along and advised and assisted them in doing it (video)," Mr. Green said.

The voice over for the Chinese video was originally done in Mandarin Chinese — the language of most of the people living in the Republic of China, Mr. Green said.

But because most of the immigrants in Canada are Cantonese they're having to re-dub the voice from Mandarin to Cantonese Chinese, he said.

Keith Lindberg, manager of media services, (left) and Brian Green, radio and television broadcasting instructor, were awarded certificates for a video co-production made with the media department of Niagara College's twin post-secondary institution Changsha University in China. The 30-minute video was given a first place award as an educational documentary.

Photo by Jennifer Bartkiw

ENGLISH VERSION

A 10-minute English video titled Wuling made by Mr. Green and Mr. Lindberg takes different looks at the area using the same footage shot for the Chinese film. "Keith and I discussed it — we said we have all this footage why don't we make our own (video) to take back. That's where the 10-minute one came from. I wrote the script, Keith edited it and we put it together," Mr. Green said.

"The theme we took in our documentary was if this area opens up to tourism — which it will — it's going to change and to a degree spoil the area," Mr. Green said.

The English video is meant for Canadian consumption so the two (videos) are quite different although they're both done from the same expedition taken into this area of China, Mr. Green said.

Maclean-Hunter Cable has a copy of Wuling and plans to broadcast it in the future. "I'm making inquiries with TV Ontario to see if they have any interest in broadcasting it," Mr. Green said.

The 30-minute Chinese video is a romantic, almost idealistic, poetic view of the area. "Ours is just called Wuling and it's much harder edged: here's what's there, here's how gorgeous it is, here are these very interesting people who are protected by their mountains living their own lives with their own culture all these years and they're going to be swallowed up by the 20th century," he said.

Costs of the co-production were shared by Niagara College and Changsha University. "We knew before we went (to China) we would be going in to do this production so we took some money to assist with the co-production," Mr. Green said.

"The one (video) we did shows two aspects of the area," Mr. Green said. "First is the basic scenery which is absolutely fabulous and mountainous. The second thing is the people who live in this mountainous area. They maintain a language, culture and customs . . . completely unique. They're a racial minority in China called the Miaou."

"When we got into the really remote areas we were meeting people who had never seen foreigners before — let alone foreigners with cameras. Their reaction was more curiosity than anything else."

"Many of the native people of Wuling were reluctant to be filmed," Mr. Green said. "We were fortunate enough to run across a family of Miaou villagers who were very friendly with the crew and allowed us to do a lot of filming of them so we have some very good pictures of a typical Miaou household."

DIFFERENT TECHNIQUES

Both Mr. Green and Mr. Lindberg said the Chinese crew was professional and friendly. "All the people we encountered in Changsha were extremely friendly, kind and welcoming," Mr. Green said.

However, there were a number of differences in filming techniques used by the Niagara College crew and the Chinese crew. "We tended to have a little more experience and knowledge of video documentary techniques but the (Chinese) cameraman, for example, was extremely well trained," Mr. Green said.

Another difference between the Chinese video and the English video was the choice of background music. "They chose Western symphonic music and we chose Chinese traditional music for ours (film)," Mr. Green said.

The footage was shot during a two-week period in April 1990. "We shot everyday and travelled through the area shooting both the scenery and the people," Mr. Green said.

The result was 20 half-hour videotapes full with images that were edited to 30 minutes for the Chinese video and 10 minutes for the English video.

Mr. Green said shooting conditions were rough at times since many of the areas couldn't be reached by car. "One day we climbed to an area called the Western Sea. It's all completely mountainous — there's no water — but when you get up to the top of these mountains the cloud cover is below you so the peaks poking through the clouds look like an ocean. Climbing up to that was a real physical ordeal."

"Another day we walked for nine hours through a valley in the mountains between two villages," Mr. Green said. "Living conditions were very rough. There's no special foreign hotels or anything like that. We were roughing it. It was pretty primitive."

LOW KEY

Mr. Green likes the overall theme and effect of the film, but looking back on the video he sees things he would like to do differently. "I find it low key. I would like to jazz it up a bit in terms of the voice over, and the shots which tend to be a little bit static. I would like to see them move a bit quicker," he said.

The film has been shown to students, and was shown to staff on a professional development day last May.

Changsha University specifically requested individuals who had a background in film and who could help with educational television. "We weren't there to force our techniques," Mr. Lindberg said. "It was just merely to draw an awareness to the way we did it. They wanted us to come over there (China) and teach them Western production techniques."

Mr. Green once thought of the Chinese people as reserved and humorless but not any more. "We really didn't expect the tremendous openness, kindness and friendliness of the Chinese people," he said.

Perils of parking, personnel year's concern

By RICHARD DOUGLAS
Staff Writer

With about 28 parking permits stolen, over 1,000 parking tickets issued and the search for a new department head, those working for physical resources (formerly plant and property services) have had an eventful year.

Patrick Jamison, the new head of physical resources, will begin at the college next week.

One of many departmental responsibilities, the college's second year of paid parking has been a concern.

The parking policy enforcement has included ticketing those illegally parked.

Sue Denbesten, the college's municipal bylaw enforcement officer, said she has issued about 1,300 parking tickets. Most of those tickets have been of the $10 variety for illegal parking, but she said she has issued many $25 and $50 tickets for those illegally parking in handicapped spots or fire lanes.

Another issue was stolen parking permits.

"Everything has quieted down," Linda Maidens, building operations supervisor, said.

Of about 28 permits stolen this year, Mrs. Denbesten said "all are back except for five or six." The return of the permits is largely due to Mrs. Denbesten's work at locating the stolen permits in cars parked on campus.

Even though the thefts have declined, other ideas are being considered for next year.

"There are several things we're looking at now," Ms. Maidens said. One possibility is the elimination of the "hang tough" permits in use. The idea of window stickers is just one of many that may be used.

Following financial trail needs planning

By JOAN GREAVES
Staff Writer

You finally have a job. You're earning enough money to live comfortably, but you can't seem to save a cent. You have no idea where your money goes. What should you do?

A consultation with a financial planner could be beneficial, especially if you've just finished school.

"It's good to start a savings plan before you accumulate a large debt load," Michael Suba, a financial planner, said.

Mr. Suba recommends having 10 per cent of your net income deducted from your cheque before you receive it. "If you don't see it, you won't miss it, and you won't spend it," he said.

"There are many different vehicles to invest your money in, no matter how little you have. You have to start somewhere," he said.

There are many financial planners. Mr. Suba suggests finding one through word of mouth or the reputation of the company.

No fee is involved for consulting with your financial planner at companies like the Mutual Group, where Mr. Suba is employed. "You can talk to me as often as you wish," he said.

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Video camera, alarms provide 'safety net'

By KAREN GIBSON
Staff Writer

Niagara College's Welland campus is going high tech with a mobile cellular phone, parking lot video cameras and alarm systems.

"Security changes will not add a lot of dollars, but will be a huge leap forward in security," John Saso, college president, said. "It will be part of the budget in April. We don't have any huge problems here, but we want to make people feel more comfortable. It can be considered a safety net."

Linda Maidens, buildings operator supervisor, said Niagara College has a "legal and moral obligation" to provide a safe and secure working environment. "A day security guard will start on March 18 and will carry a portable cellular phone at all times. The phone is to be used strictly for emergency situations. The college will have 24-hour security."

Surveillance cameras will be installed in the Welland campus parking lots.

"Cameras will be installed in parking lots this summer," Ms. Maidens said. "There will also be a camera installed at the back of receiving and the student centre."

Night security guards for Hennepin Hall, Black Walnut and Mackenzie buildings will be replaced by alarm systems, and the security guard position in the library will be eliminated.

"The new day security guard will patrol the library at peak periods," Ms. Maidens said.

New security plans affect the remaining night security guards at the Simcoe building. A tender for a new security company will mean a change of security guards.

"I will have the final say on who is hired," Ms. Maidens said. "I want guards with good communication skills who can verbally diffuse problem situations."

(See story page 3)

Three areas at Hennepin Hall reduce classroom space squeeze

Three areas have been found in Hennepin Hall that can be used as classrooms, Neil McGregor, director human services division, said.

The search for additional classroom space began after a scheduling conflict highlighted the need for a master plan of all college classrooms.

"This prompted the subcommittee of the college planning group to come up with more efficient use of space and to create more classroom space within the financial resources available," Mr. McGregor said.

He said it is college president John Saso's priority to create more space for classroom use.

The Early Childhood Education program and the Legal Assistant program need access to an open concept room like S109 in the Simcoe building at the Welland campus.

S109 is the only open concept classroom at the college. The Early Childhood Education program had access to the room five to six hours per week until this winter, Hans van der Slagt, vice-president administration, said.

An increase in enrolment in the Legal Assistant program created a demand for more space. "The office they were using was too small and inadequate," Mr. van der Slagt said.

There are scheduling problems at the college, Mr. McGregor said. "There is more demand for classrooms than there are classrooms available. The problem with open concept is that the classroom (S109) is not being used as a classroom this year. It's being used as a resource area."

The sub-committee is seeking an area that can be used as a resource area so S109 can revert back to a classroom. "We would like to upgrade the room so it can be used as a classroom," Mr. McGregor said.

"We are reviewing the situation. It will be submitted to the committee of the college planning group March 26. The new rooms should be available for September 1991."

Red Cross soldiers on despite war's end

By ROBBIE CRAINE
Staff Writer

The Canadian Red Cross is still accepting donations to help victims of the Persian Gulf war.

"The war's over but the human casualties are still staggering," Gordon Rivers, international emergency chairman for the Welland branch of the Red Cross, said.

The Red Cross began asking for donations in January. The campaign to help the Gulf victims has not been given a closing date, he said.

As of last Friday, the local branch has received $457.50. The largest corporate donation was $112.50; the largest private donation was $100, Mr. Rivers said.

"Most of them (donations) are $10 or $20."

Each donor receives a receipt for income tax purposes and a thank you note from Mr. Rivers.

"Any amount is helpful," he said.

Although the war is over, there is still work for the Red Cross to do.

Mr. Rivers said the situation will be difficult for many years and described the Red Cross' impartial approach as "the only voice of sanity."

"The civil unrest of the aftermath of war is creating more problems for those of us that are trying to help," he said.

The Red Cross have set up emergency hospitals in the Gulf and tent cities have been erected for displaced civilians. Food, shelter, and basic clothing are the first needs the Red Cross tries to meet. They try to help reunite families — Iraqi, Kuwaiti, and soldiers — as well, he said.

The local Red Cross will be sending letters to churches, radio stations, and newspapers in the area, thanking them for their previous help and listing the present areas of need.

Besides the unlimited need for assistance in the Persian Gulf, Bulgaria, Afghanistan, and Liberia are in need. An unlimited campaign to assist children and other victims of civil war in Liberia; a two-month campaign to assist earthquake and flood victims in Afghanistan; and a six-month campaign to assist 50,000 orphans in Bulgaria have been started by the Canadian Red Cross, Mr. Rivers said.

branch of the Canadian Red Cross. Various banks — including the Royal Bank, Toronto Dominion, Bank of Montreal, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, Bank of Nova Scotia, Banque Nationale, Canadian Western, and Barclay's — will accept donations as well.

Cheques must specify which area the donor wishes to assist, he said. Cheques can be sent to any

"Somebody should do something about that."

SOMEBODY DID.

In Nova Scotia, the Maritime Fishermen's Union wanted to continue its campaign of encouraging fishermen to bag their trash and bring it back ashore. With help from the Shell Environmental Fund, the campaign is going strong.

In Midland, Ontario, the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre wanted to bring the concept of composting to its 42,000 annual visitors. With help from Shell, the Centre now has a full-size composter and a portable mini model.

In West Vancouver, 4,500 obsolete underground residential oil tanks were posing a threat to the environment. With funding from Shell, the local fire department hired students to locate the tanks and advise owners about safe disposal.

The $1-million annual Shell Environmental Fund provides grants for action-oriented, innovative environmental projects in communities across Canada. If you have an idea for helping the environment, the Fund could help you do something about it. For more information, call us at the Shell Helps Centre 1-800-661-1600.

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Hippity Hoppity Easter's on it's way! The Easter Bunny has already stopped at the Fashion Club Boutique. He's left us with a wide variety of spring clothes this year. (Above) Anne-Marie is wearing his favorite floral print outfit which is now on sale for $39.99. Fill your basket and hop on in for a special gift for your favorite honey bunny!

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